

Jordan Times

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Arabian horse show opens

AMMAN (Petra) — The Fifth International Arabian Horse Show opened Wednesday under the Patronage of Her Majesty Queen Noor at the Royal Stables in the presence of Her Royal Highness Princess Alia Bint Al Hussein, president of the Royal Jordanian Arabian Horse Association and head of the higher judging committee. More than 170 horses from Jordan, Syria, Qatar, The United Arab Emirates, France, Britain and the United States are participating in the five-day event, which started its first Tuesday. Queen Noor distributed trophies and medals to the winners of the show. The inauguration ceremony was attended by Her Royal Highness Princess Zain Bint Al Hussein, Princess Iman Bint Al Hussein and Princess Rania Al Abdullah, in addition to Interior Minister Saleh Hamad and other ambassadors and officials.

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Crown Prince meets Netanyahu in London, welcomes Likud stand

Meeting has no bearing on ongoing Jordan-Israeli peace talks — Prince

by a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan on Tuesday met with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and welcomed his visit to Jordan. The Crown Prince said the meeting has no bearing on the ongoing Jordan-Israeli peace talks. He said the meeting was a personal one and did not affect the peace process. The Crown Prince also welcomed the Likud government's stance on the peace process. He said the Likud government's stance was a positive step towards peace. The Crown Prince also welcomed the Likud government's stance on the peace process. He said the Likud government's stance was a positive step towards peace.

Following the signing of the Washington Declaration that ended a 46-year state of belligerency between Jordan and Israel, the leadership of Likud met and voted with an overwhelming majority in support of the declaration. Mr. Netanyahu also sent a message to His Majesty King Hussein expressing support for the Kingdom's moves towards making peace with Israel in a clear indication that some of the Likud hardliners' argument that "Jordan is Palestine" did not have party backing. Furthermore, Likud legislators also voted en masse in support of the Washington Declaration in the Knesset (Israeli parliament). Following the London meeting, the Crown Prince told Jordan Television: "I would like to thank Likud for its clear support for the concept of comprehensive peace between Jordan and Israel."

The Likud's position is clear now, following the Washington Declaration," he said. "The Israeli opposition now supports the Rabin government in its drive to reach a comprehensive peace with Israel and Mr. Netanyahu sent a clear message to this effect to Jordan expressing Likud's willingness to support the peace efforts." The Crown Prince emphasized that the London meeting had no bearing on the ongoing Jordanian-Israeli peace negotiations. "I would like to stress that the meeting represented an expression of our desire to maintain contacts with the Israeli political leaders. It would not influence in any way the current bilateral talks between Jordan and Israel and the trilateral talks that include the U.S. except in regard to the general framework for comprehensive peace." In comments to Petra, the Crown Prince noted that the negotiations were between the governments of Jordan and Israel conducted by their representatives and aim at achieving a just peace that would benefit the two peoples as well as all the region's peoples. The prince said the signing of a full peace treaty between Jordan and Israel depends on the progress of the negotiations. Crown Prince Hassan also reiterated that the ongoing Jordanian-Israeli negotiations had no bearing on the other — Syrian-Israeli, Lebanese-Israeli and Palestinian-Israeli — tracks of the peace process. Asked whether he expected Likud to follow the same course of peace if it achieved power in Israel, the Crown Prince declined comment saying he would not "speculate" on behalf of Mr.



His Majesty King Hussein on Wednesday accepts a gift from a delegation representing the Israeli Arab community (Petra photo)

King meets Israeli Arab team, hopes for peace for all

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein said on Wednesday that the Middle East peace process was following a serious course, and "with God's help, we will soon attain good results of the efforts aimed at settling all outstanding issues in a drive to reach a just and durable peace." Addressing a delegation representing the cultural and political sectors of the Druze, Circassian and Christian communities and the Galilee and Karmel regions living in Palestinian lands occupied since 1948, King Hussein said Jordan hopes that the current peace negotiations "will end with the attainment of a formula that can ensure security, stability and decent life" for all the peoples of the region. Welcoming the delegation at the Royal Court, King Hussein said Jordan had been following up with deep

appreciation the Palestinian people's steadfastness and refusal to leave their lands and their quest for their rights and their affiliation to their Arab roots. "We have always hoped that we would finally arrive at a time of peace when we could meet and express our appreciation to you for your efforts and your sacrifices which are a source of deep pride to all of us," King Hussein said. The King said Jordan would provide all the facilities to enable the Palestinian people to meet with their relatives and kinsmen in the Kingdom at present and in the future. The King said that Jordan was seeking a just peace in which all people's rights are respected and holy shrines safeguarded for all believers in God. Stressing that the Palestinians and the Jordanians

form one family, King Hussein expressed hope that the Jordanians and the Palestinians would succeed in working for the benefit of their future generations. At the outset of the meeting, the head of the delegation, Zeidan Atsheh, said that the delegation had come to Jordan to express appreciation and support for the King for his efforts towards peace. He said that the Palestinians were following with pride the King's efforts towards peace and towards safeguarding the holy places in Palestine. The meeting was attended by Royal Court Chief Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker and the King's advisors as well as Minister of State Mohammad Thweib. The delegation presented the King with a commemorative gift.

Efforts under way for Sharaa-Peres 'handshake' at U.N.

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Israel said during the visit of a U.S. Middle East peace envoy on Wednesday that efforts were being made to arrange a high-level meeting between Israel and Syria. Itamar Rabinovich, Israel's chief negotiator with Syria, confirmed the efforts to arrange a meeting between Israel and Syria. He said the meeting was being arranged for next month. He said the meeting was being arranged for next month. He said the meeting was being arranged for next month.

Israel last week welcomed a speech by Mr. Assad in which he vowed to fulfill any commitments to peace. Israeli Housing Minister Binyamin Ben-Eliezer said on Monday he assumed that Israel and Syria were engaged in secret contacts to try to break the deadlock. But Mr. Peres denied it. "There are no secret negotiations. There are meetings between the ambassadors and things like this," Mr. Peres said on Tuesday. Mr. Rabinovich is also Israel's ambassador to Washington. Israel radio said all sides "know a lot more than they are letting on."

Syrian expert Yossi Olmert, who says he took part in secret talks with Syrian counterparts, predicted peace soon. "I am sure that an agreement will be signed by Assad and Rabin in 1995. By November 1996 we will be at the height of realizing the agreement," Mr. Olmert told Israel Radio, referring to the scheduled date for Israeli elections. Mr. Rabinovich was also upbeat on the radio saying: "The latest peace signals from Syria show that Damascus has accepted the principle of public diplomacy and the pace is quickening." "The signals indicate forthcoming positive developments and are aimed at public opinion in Syria, Israel and internationally."

Pro-peace banners which appeared in Syria for the Ross trip created excitement in Israel. Mr. Ross told Mr. Rabin he saw "at least 15" pro-peace posters on his way into the Syrian capital. The history of military leaders and the prime minister involved in surprised approval. The posters, which won prominent coverage in Israeli newspapers Wednesday, say "peace is the noble goal" and "we don't need war but a peace that is just and fair."

Berbers stage strike in Algeria

GIERS (AP) — Ethnic Berbers staged a general strike in northeastern Algeria Wednesday as a show of protest against the government's Muslim fundamentalist policies. The one-day walkout, which began in the town of Giers, was part of a series of protests against the government's policies. The government has been seeking its own brand of fundamentalism in recent weeks. The government has been seeking its own brand of fundamentalism in recent weeks. The government has been seeking its own brand of fundamentalism in recent weeks.



American soldiers guarding the main gate to the Port-au-Prince harbour look on as a Haitian policeman swings his club to disperse Haitians. Several incidents were reported on Tuesday and Wednesday of Haitian police brutality against civilians, including the death of two, as American soldiers watched and did not interfere (AFP photo)

U.S. turns up pressure on Cedras and Aristide

PORT-AU-PRINCE (Agencies) — Warning that U.S. soldiers might step in, the commander of American forces urged Haiti's military leaders on Wednesday to stop using "unnecessary force" against pro-democracy demonstrators. In Washington, exiled Haitian President Jean-Bertrand Aristide was meeting Wednesday with U.S. officials to iron out stark differences over the accord that Washington signed with the military junta that ousted him. Defence Secretary William Perry and the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, General John Shalikashvili, were to give him a detailed briefing on the situation in Haiti following the arrival of thousands of U.S. troops. White House spokeswoman Dee Dee Myers said. Mr. Aristide has held several meetings with U.S. administration officials who have attempted to convince the Haitian leader that an agreement struck Sunday with the Haitian military junta is in his best interests. While Mr. Aristide has

failed to give his approval of the agreement, U.S. officials noted that the accord did not reject the accord that sets Oct. 15 as the deadline for Haitian military leaders to step down. "I think we are improving our communication and dialogue with President Aristide," White House chief of staff Leon Panetta said in a television interview. Sporadic violence erupted Tuesday at Port-au-Prince's docks, airport and huge Cite Soleil slum, while American soldiers stood by, hamstrung by policy made in Washington, and watched in dismay. Witnesses said one man was clubbed to death by a Haitian policeman. The military government banned street demonstrations in a communique on state media late Tuesday night. The broadcast was repeated Wednesday morning. To head off further violence, lieutenant-general Henry Hugh Shelton and his top aides met Wednesday with army chief Lt. Gen. Raoul Cedras. Gen. Shelton said he would urge Gen. Cedras to rein in police, soldiers

and pro-army militiamen. The "use of unnecessary force is a matter of concern to us," Shelton told reporters before the meeting at army headquarters. Gen. Shelton said American soldiers would leave crowd control and law and order to Haitian authorities, but left open the possibility U.S. troops could step in if the situation goes out of control. "It's an internal law and order situation," he said, adding that if the Haitians fail to take the appropriate measures, "we will take the next step." He did not specify what that step might be. The arrival of the Americans has prompted pro-democracy demonstrations and celebrations. The jubilation has led to ugly clashes with Haitian police, who beat and tear-gassed crowds that gathered to welcome the U.S. forces. American troops were preparing Wednesday to spread out from Haiti's two major cities amid appeals for calm by political leaders. In Washington, Ms. Panetta told reporters: "We're

Majali, Kaddoumi discuss relations

By Ayman Al Safadi
 Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A high-ranking Palestinian official ended a one-day visit here Wednesday after saying he sought ways to improve Jordanian-Palestinian ties which witnessed increasing tension in the past year. Head of the political department at the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Farouk Kaddoumi said after a meeting with Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali that improving Jordanian-Palestinian relations "is a basic issue" for the Palestinians. Mr. Kaddoumi said in a statement to Jordan Television before departure for Tunis that "we are in the process of formulating a plan to boost Jordanian-Palestinian ties." Palestinian sources said that Dr. Majali and Mr. Kaddoumi discussed "in general terms" plans by Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat to visit Jordan, adding that the visit would materialise in the "coming few weeks." Sources say that Jordan insists that Mr. Arafat, who last visited Jordan in May, be ready to deal with all the outstanding problems with the Kingdom before the visit materialises. The Jordan News Agency, Petra, said the meeting between Dr. Majali and Mr. Kaddoumi discussed bilateral ties and recent developments in the peace process. It quoted the prime minister as saying that the Kingdom was devoting its highest attention to the restoration of its rights in land and water as well as the recovering of all Arab rights. The Kingdom "considers continued serious coordination with the Palestinian brethren a basic issue, especially that realising the legitimate and complete rights of the Palestinians falls in line with the objective of achieving just, lasting and compre-

hensive peace," Petra quoted Dr. Majali as saying. Dr. Majali reiterated His Majesty King Hussein's "support for the Palestinian people and helping them end their suffering and realise all their rights, live in dignity and enjoy peace, stability and security along with other peoples of the area." Mr. Kaddoumi said he briefed Dr. Majali on the outcome of the meetings of the Palestinian development agency, which took place in Cairo earlier this week. The Palestinian official stressed the need for economic cooperation between Jordan and the Palestinians, saying experience had proven the complementarity of the Jordanian and the Palestinian economies. "The common interests between Jordan and Palestine" has made it impossible for them to separate, he said. The Kingdom and the PLO reached two economic agreements earlier this year but the Palestinian leadership did not sign them. The Palestinian sources said the meeting took place in "a comfortable atmosphere," adding that Dr. Majali has shown understanding of the problems that are delaying the Palestinians from coming to Jordan to start the meetings of the joint committees. The sources said a Palestinian delegation was supposed to have arrived in Jordan earlier this month but the trip was delayed to the end of the month because of the Palestinians' engagement with running the affairs of the self-rule areas. Jordan showed understanding of that, the Palestinian sources said. The Palestinian sources said the two sides did not discuss the issue of Jerusalem, adding they saw no reason for the media frenzy over the issues because "the holy sites in Jerusalem are still the responsibility of Jordan which is still supervising

The visit of Malaysian trade delegation to Jordan

Sept. 29 - Oct. 3

A trade delegation from Malaysia will be visiting Jordan from Sept. 29 - Oct. 3 1994. Members of the delegation are interested to meet Jordanian businessmen/entrepreneurs to discuss the possibilities of cooperation in the following areas:

1. Cooperation in the service industries including banking, insurance, tourism, shipping and forwarding, transportation, telecommunications and consultancy services.
2. Joint-ventures in property development, construction, mining, hotels and resorts development.
3. Trading.
4. Import of Malaysian products into Jordan including foodstuff, rubber products, plastic products, timber products, furniture, electronic and electrical products, office equipment, textile, household products, ceramic tiles, palm oil and palm oil products, iron and steel products, water treatment system and petroleum products.

A programme is being arranged for the members of delegation to meet their counterparts from 0930-1200 hours on Sunday, Oct. 2, at Al Mukhtar Room, Inter-Continental Hotel, Amman. Jordanian businessmen/entrepreneurs who are interested in the above are requested to make appointment by contacting any one of the following:

The Honorary Consulate of Malaysia
 Shmeisani
 Amman
 Tel: 672086
 Fax: 672088

Contact: Miss Salwa, Miss Nadia
 (Please note that working hours are from Saturday - Thursday: 09:00-14:00 hrs).

OR

MATRADE Business Center
 Inter-Continental Hotel
 Amman
 Tel: 615828, 615829
 Fax: 615836

Contact: Mr. Abdullah Sami Baharin
 (The secretariat will be operating from Sept. 21 - Oct. 3, 1994 from 08:30-17:00 hrs).

Garang says war to go on

NAIROBI (R) — Sudanese rebel chief John Garang said on Tuesday he was going back to the bush again to fight the Islamist government in Khartoum as the latest African peace initiative ran out of steam.

The presidents of Kenya, Uganda, Ethiopia and Eritrea vowed to struggle on with their campaign to revive talks that collapsed two weeks ago when Khartoum refused to compromise its stand on self-determination for the south and the separation of state and religion.

"Clearly the deadlock in the talks is due to the intransigence of the government," Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) chief Garang told reporters in Nairobi.

"Khartoum can't have it both ways. Any government cannot reject the right of the south and other marginalised areas to self-determination and at the same time insist that Sudan must remain united on the basis of Arabism and Islam. The two are exclusive."

Guerrillas of the SPLA, from the black, mainly non-Muslim south, launched their war in 1983 to end what they see as domination by the Arabised north and the imposition of Islamic Sharia law.

Colonel Garang leads a "mainstream" faction of the SPLA which has been driven right up to the borders of Kenya and Uganda and now the strategic border town of Nimule is under threat from attack by government forces.

"Yes, they will attack... (but) you really cannot defeat guerrillas. We are a people at arms, how can you push a people out of their country?" said Col. Garang, adding that he was returning immediately to the battlefield.

If the SPLA loses Nimule it

will have no road supply route to Uganda, a crucial backer of the rebels, but Col. Garang vowed that the war could still be waged in the vast bushlands of the south.

"Our supply routes within Sudan can never be cut off. Khartoum makes an issue of towns, but these are towns we captured from them and can just as easily leave," Col. Garang, a 50-year-old former army officer, said.

Sudan's leader, Lieutenant-General Omar Hassan Al Bashir, on his return from the Nairobi peace talks, said the African presidents' peace group had reached a dead end.

He accused Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni of being biased against Sudan. "How can you be a mediator when you are asking for sanctions to be imposed on Sudan?" Gen. Bashir, referring to a demand by Mr. Museveni last week, was quoted on state radio as saying.

Gen. Bashir vowed never to give in to the SPLA's demand for self-determination and hinted Khartoum would not make any concession on the issue of relationship between state and religion.

"Our proposals regarding the relationship between state and religion is the best so far," Gen. Bashir said, without giving details.

The African presidents said in a statement late on Monday that their initiative launched last year should continue, but they were vague on how they would achieve this.

"The heads of state will seek collective and appropriate means to reinforce the... initiative with a view to reaching a final settlement of the problem," the statement said.

Bank to probe Lonrho sale of Lockerbie film

LONDON (AFP) — The Bank of England has undertaken an investigation to determine if Lonrho breached United Nations sanctions by selling a film about the Lockerbie bombing to an Egyptian company, the Libyans link, the Financial Times said on Wednesday.

The probe is an important investigation into the battle between the Lonrho conglomerate and the Egyptian government over the sale of the film.

The film, "The Lockerbie Bombing," was sold to the Egyptian company, the Libyans link, the Financial Times said on Wednesday.

The investigation into the sale of the film is being carried out by the Bank of England's Emergency Unit.

The unit is to ensure that the financial aspects of U.N. sanctions are not breached by the sale of the film.

The latest version of the sanctions introduced on October 1 last year, British companies are required to obtain the bank's permission before selling the film.

The bank's permission was not given, according to the Financial Times, which said the film was sold to the Egyptian company, the Libyans link, the Financial Times said on Wednesday.

Lockerbie, Scotland, in December 1988, killing 270 people.

The United Nations imposed sanctions on Tripoli in 1992 after it refused to hand over two suspects for trial in either Britain or the United States.

The film's £632,948 (\$949,422) budget was financed by Lonrho's Metropole subsidiary, which is a third owned by the Libyan Arab Finance Company, said the paper.

Earlier this year, after Mr. Bock complained about Lonrho's involvement in the film, it was sold to a Cairo-based firm, the Joint Arab International Investment Company (JAICO) for £200,000 (\$300,000).

In April a British branch of Barclays Bank received a payment of £199,989 from the Cairo branch of Arab International Bank.

But the signatory on the sale agreement, on behalf of JAICO, was Mohammed Al Huweij, chairman of LAFICO, the main investment vehicle of the Libyan leader Colonel Muammar Qadhafi.

Because of the apparent connection between JAICO and LAFICO, Mr. Rowland was formally requested by Metropole to obtain a written statement from Mr. Huweij on his relationship with JAICO. It is not known whether one was provided, said the Financial Times.



SLOGANS OF PEACE: A civil... paints a portrait of Syrian President Hafez Al Assad, featuring the pacifist

statement "Peace is a noble aim and a precious goal," on a wall of Damascus airport (AFP photo)

Turkey's premier urges by-elections this year

ANKARA (R) — Turkish Prime Minister Tansu Ciller on Tuesday called for by-elections to fill 22 vacant seats in parliament, emptied largely with the June closing of a pro-Kurdish party on charges of separatism.

Ms. Ciller, whose True Path Party (DYP) is unlikely to gain many seats, said much remained to be done and ruled out the possibility of an early general election.

"We are not of those who run away," she said. Ms. Ciller's announcement came amid speculation she would be forced to a by-election by a constitutional requirement that polls be held within three months of 23 seats becoming vacant.

The legislature had been scheduled to vote on the resignation of a DYP deputy — bringing the number of vacancies to 23 — but he changed his mind after Ms. Ciller's speech.

Although few extra seats were very likely to go the way of Ms. Ciller's government, the forthcoming polls are largely her own doing, since

with the Social Democrat People's Party (SHP) was about to crack after newspapers this weekend suggested she was flirting with the main opposition Motherland Party (ANAP) and that she could surrender to ANAP's demand for an early general election.

"The coalition is up and running," she said. Ms. Ciller's announcement came amid speculation she would be forced to a by-election by a constitutional requirement that polls be held within three months of 23 seats becoming vacant.

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she strongly supported a constitutional court ruling to ban the pro-Kurdish Democracy Party (DEP) on June 16. This stripped its 13 members of their seats, and channelled some support, particularly in the mainly-Kurdish southeast, for the pro-Islamic Welfare Party (RP), which polled 18.3 per cent in the March regional elections.

The RP is again seeking a good showing, having gained in the southeast after the withdrawal from the March polls to add to its surprise victories in Ankara and Istanbul.

Six of the vacancies stem from deaths, including DEP Deputy Mehmet Sincir, who was gunned down by unknown killers in a street in the southeastern town of Batman.

The only DYP vacancy came when then party leader and Prime Minister Suleyman Demirel became president in May 1993.

Ms. Ciller could still take a slice of the DEP cake, due to the large number of state-paid village guards and security forces in the southeast, where she has stepped up Turkey's battle with the separatist Kurdish Labour Party (PKK).

More than 12,900 have been killed in the 10-year fight with the PKK. Ms. Ciller's call calmed financial markets, which had fretted about the political uncertainties. The Istanbul stock market gained almost five per cent, in part on the elections news.

Ms. Ciller also sought to dispel fears at home and abroad that election spending would derail efforts to put the economy back on track. Withdrawal from the March polls to add to its surprise victories in Ankara and Istanbul.

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3 British soldiers remain in Cypriot police custody

LARNACA (Agencies) — A court on Wednesday ordered three British soldiers held a further eight days to enable police to complete their investigations into last week's kidnapping and murder of a Danish tourist.

The soldiers have been in custody since Louise Jensen's disappearance Sept. 13 and police say the three have confessed to the 23-year-old woman's murder.

Jensen was seized by three men who attacked her and a male friend as the pair rode a motorcycle in the popular beach resort of Ayia Napa, police say.

Her battered body was found two days later in a shallow grave on nearby Farmland. Police said she had been beaten about the head and neck.

Jensen had been the Cyprus representative for the Danish tour agency Fridtjofsen and was based at Ayia Napa.

The soldiers served at the nearby British base at Dhekelia. Britain maintains two sovereign bases in Cyprus, a former British colony. They are manned by about 4,000 British troops.

Police have identified the three in custody as Justin Fowler, 26, Alan Ford, 26, and Jeff Parnell, 23. All three

were serving with the 1st battalion of the Royal Green-jackets Regiment.

During Wednesday's 30-minute hearing, the soldiers, dressed in civilian clothes, stood stiffly with their hands clasped behind their backs as Police Inspector Markos Christou sought their continued detention.

The soldiers, each of whom is being represented by a separate Cypriot attorney, were transported to the Larnaca court from the Nicosia central prison in separate police cars. Each was handcuffed to a police officer.

Mr. Christou said police were investigating possible charges of premeditated murder and kidnapping with intent to murder.

He described Jensen's slaying as "one of the most brutal crimes committed in Cyprus" since last year when a Ukrainian dancer and Swede married to a Cypriot died in similar fashion, also in a Ayia Napa.

Two Cypriot gangsters were convicted and sentenced to life imprisonment in those cases.

Mr. Christou said that in Jensen's case "There is sufficient evidence against the three suspects and the police believe the extension of the remand order is fully justified."

He said he had taken 30 depositions and needed time to get 30 to 40 more to complete his case against the soldiers.

The court heard that the three were arrested for behaving "disorderly" and after refusing to show their identities to a policeman who stopped the mini moped they were driving.

"They were yelling and swearing at the policeman who stopped them and asked for identities. One of them also slapped a second policeman who came to help his colleague," Mr. Christou told the court.

He also said that the one who slapped the policeman was Ford, a heavy-built, tattooed soldier who was previously arrested last Aug. 13 for drunken brawling at a pub in Ayia Napa.

During that incident a British musician was so badly cut after Ford allegedly threw a broken bottle at his face that he had to receive 32 stitches.

Ford is expected to appear in a local court for this incident in December.

A police source told Reuters investigators were still examining the possibility that Jensen, whose body was flown back to Denmark this week, had also been raped

before her death. A bases chaplain and a British woman who belongs to a support group for the prisoners said they had talked to the soldiers.

Judge Adonis Indianapolis approved the extension without comment.

The proceedings took place in a small courtroom jammed with more than 100 spectators, most of whom stood at the back of the room because of the lack of seats.

After the hearing, the soldiers hid their faces in the crooks of their arms as they passed through a battery of news photographers to get to the police vehicles that took them back to their jail cells in Nicosia, Cyprus' capital.

Once in the vehicles, they bent down to hide their faces from the photographers who tried to take their pictures through the car windows.

No mention was made in court of the soldiers' psychiatric examination Tuesday. The procedure reportedly is standard procedure for any person suspected of a serious offence.

The Jensen case has shocked this island where violent crime is rare. Usually only four or five murders are reported a year, generally a result of crimes of passion within a family.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Dubai's airline signs for third Airbus

ABU DHABI (AP) — Dubai's national airline Emirates has leased a third Airbus jetliner to be delivered in April next year to meet its demand for extra capacity. Commercial Director Tim Clark announced Tuesday. Maurice Flanagan, Emirates managing director, has signed a contract in Seattle with Steve Udvar-Hazy, president and chief executive officer of the U.S.-based International Lease Financing Corporation for the Airbus A310-300. "This third Airbus will provide us with the extra capacity we require and will gradually take over the work of our Boeing 727s," Mr. Clark said. Earlier this year, Emirates leases an Airbus A310-300, delivered in July, and an A300-600 from Airbus Industrie which is expected in March. The third Airbus will boost Emirates' fleet to 18 aircraft — 10 A310-300s, six A300-600s and two Boeing 727s.

Irish unit returns home from Somalia

DUBLIN (AFP) — The final contingent of Irish troops which had been serving in United Nations forces in Somalia arrived in Dublin Tuesday night, government sources said. The 81 members of the Irish 2nd Transport Company had been stationed in the Horn of Africa country as part of the U.N. mission to bring relief supplies and seek to restore peace, and worked closely with the Indian and French contingents. Three officers have remained in Mogadishu to carry out administrative work. Earlier this year, the Irish government decided that the 2nd Transport Unit, serving as the last sizeable Western contingent with the United Nations forces in Somalia, would pull out in September.

Abed Rabbo attends Israeli theatre

AKKO (AP) — Yasser Abed Rabbo, the culture minister in the Palestinian self-rule government, on Tuesday attended the opening of a theatre festival in Israel. "I hope that my coming here will pave the road for better relations between Palestinians and Israelis and help implement the objectives of the peace agreement," Mr. Abed Rabbo told reporters. Mr. Abed Rabbo had been invited to the Akko Festival of Alternative Theatre by its Israeli counterpart, Culture Minister Shulamit Aloni, a leading dove and an advocate of talks with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO). Mr. Abed Rabbo said he planned to launch a culture festival in the autonomous West Bank town of Jericho in the spring.

S. Arabia, U.S. committed to peace

DUBAI (R) — President Clinton has told Saudi Arabian King Fahd that he looks forward to continued cooperation with Riyadh on Middle East peace, regional stability and economic development, the official Saudi Press Agency said on Tuesday. In a message to King Fahd for the occasion of Saudi National Day which falls on Friday, Mr. Clinton was quoted by SPA as praising "the great contributions emanating from Saudi-American cooperation to the benefit of regional security and stability." Mr. Clinton added: "We are looking forward to continue this fruitful dealing between our two nations concerning our joint commitments towards peace in the Middle East, regional stability and economic development." SPA said, King Fahd in his reply to Mr. Clinton that "distinguished historical links between our two countries and peoples... had contributed to the strengthening of security and stability in the region," the agency said. He added that "the joint interests and goals bringing our two countries and peoples together necessitate that we carry on work jointly to achieve comprehensive and constructive cooperation in all fields," SPA said.

Turks accused of killing neo-Nazi go on trial

BERLIN (AFP) — The trial of six Turks and a German accused of murdering a German neo-Nazi got underway amid tight security here Tuesday, an AFP correspondent said. The seven men, whose ages range from 19 to 33, are charged with involvement in the murder of Gerhard Kaindl, a secretary of the far-right German League for the Nation and the Fatherland. Kaindl was stabbed three times by masked men at a neo-Nazi gathering in a Chinese restaurant here in April 1992. One of the defendants, a 19-year-old, gave himself up to police in November 1993 and implicated the rest of the accused, several of whom are members of a far-left Kurdish party, the Anti-Fascist Youth. Around 10 far-left demonstrators protested outside the courthouse Tuesday as the trial opened. Armed police both inside and outside the building carried out strict security checks on everyone coming in, delaying entrance to the public gallery by several hours. Carsten Pagel, a former local official for the larger far-right Republican Party, who was sitting at Kaindl's table, said the attack was meant for him. Kaindl's party, founded in 1991, has won several seats in local government, thanks to electoral pacts with other far right organisations. According to the German security services, it has around 900 members.

Yemen's press freedom 'in danger'

DUBAI (AFP) — Freedom of the press is in danger in post-war Yemen, the management of a suspended southern newspaper warned Tuesday. "The serious errors committed by the Yemen Socialist Party (YSP) which led to its military defeat should not be used as a reason to stifle democracy and freedom of the press," said Al Ayam in a statement received here. The statement signed by chief editor Hashim Bt-Sharhabil said Information Minister Hassan Al Lohi had ordered the formerly pro-southern newspaper October 14 not to allow Al Ayam to be printed as before at its printing press. October 14, which stopped publishing after the defeat of the YSP and fall of the southern stronghold of Aden in early July after a two-month civil war, reappeared on July 27 with a new pro-Sanaa management.

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 72111-19

PRGRAMME TWO

18:30 Les Grands Voix De La Musique Arabie
19:30 Planete En Equations
20:30 Les Memoires En Chantant
21:00 News in Hebrew
21:30 Bartlesley Galactica
22:00 News in Arabic
22:30 Heart of Danger
23:00 Murder She Wrote
23:30 News in English
24:00 Film: "Intimate Betrayal"

PRAYER TIMES

06:01 Fair
05:19 Sunrise
11:29 Dhuhr
14:57 Asr
17:39 Maghreb
18:57 Isha

CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church
Swedish Tel: 810740
Assemblies of God Church, Tel: 632785
St. Joseph Church Tel: 624990
Church of the Annunciation Tel: 637440
De la Salle Church Tel: 661757

TERRESTRIAL CHURCH

Tel: 622366

CHURCH OF THE ANNUNCIATION

622341
Anglican Church Tel: 630851, Tel: 625453
Armenian Catholic Church Tel: 771331
Armenian Orthodox Church Tel: 775261
St. Ephraim Church Tel: 771751
Armenian International Church Tel: 625226
Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel: 824328
German-speaking Evangelical Congregation Tel: 684195
The Latter-Day Saints Tel: 654932
Church of Nazareth Tel: 675691
The Evangelical Local Church in Amman Tel: 811295

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.
Moderate weather conditions will prevail with winds westerly moderate. In Amman, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.

Min./Max. temp.

Amman 16 / 30
Aqaba 24 / 36
Dahesh 14 / 33
Jordan Valley 23 / 36
Yesterday's high temperatures:
Amman 30, Aqaba 36 Humidity readings: Amman 24 per cent.

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

Aqaba 35 per cent.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

NIGHT DUTY

MMAN:

Dr. Bassam Karadabeh 792200

Dr. Khalil Zuhairi 714451

Dr. Bassim Qudus 648633

Dr. Yousef Abdo 649116

Firas pharmacy 661912

Al Asom pharmacy 670655

Nairokh pharmacy 623672

Al Salam pharmacy 636730

Yacoub pharmacy 644945

Shamsani pharmacy 637660

Najib pharmacy 847677

IRRID:

Dr. Mohammad Al Hilu 797773

Alquds pharmacy (-)

ZARQA:

Dr. Mubashir Hijawi 981217

Khalid pharmacy 985417

EMERGENCIES

Food Control Centre 637111

Civil Defence Department 661111

Civil Defence Emergency 199

Rescue Police 192, 621111, 637777

Blood Bank 775121

Highway Police 843402

Traffic Police 896390

Public Security Department 63021

Hotel Complaints 605800

Price Complaints 661776

Water and Sewerage 897467

Complaints 897467

Amman Municipality 787111

Complaints 787111

Telephone Information (directory assistance) 121

Overseas Calls 010230

Central Amman Telephone 623101

Repairs 623101

Abdali Telephone Repairs 661101

Jordan Television 731111

Radio Jordan 774111

Water Authority 680100

Jordan Electricity Authority 815615

Electric Power Company 636381

RJ Flight Information 06-53240

Queen Alia Int. Airport 06-53200

AMMAN:

Hussien Medical Centre 813813/32

Khalid Maternity, J. Amn 64281/6

Akileh Maternity, J. Amn. 64241/2

Jabal Amman Maternity 642462

Malhas, J. Amman 636140

Palestine, Shamsani 6641714

Shamsani Hospital 669131

Al-Munshir Hospital 845845

The Islamic, Abdali 6672779

Al-Ahl, Abdali 6641646

Italian, Al-Muhajir 777101/3

Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh 77111/26

Army, Marka 891611/15

Queen Alia Hospital 602240/30

Amal Hospital 674155

ZARQA:

Zarqa Govt. Hospital (09)983323

Zarqa National Hospital (09)900560

Ibn Sina Hospital (09)986732

Al Hikma Modern Hospital (09)990980

IRRID:



A PUSH FOR MORE LINES: Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali Wednesday meets with officials at the Ministry of Post and Communications and urges them to expand telephone services and provide more lines to businesses located on Wasfi Telli Street (formerly Gardens) as well as in the Ras Al Ain Industrial zone at Naour. Dr. Majali said the ministry should provide telephone lines to major factories and investment companies as well as regional offices of various organisations in a bid to encourage investments in the Kingdom. He said the automatic telephone exchange in Aqaba should be boosted by at least 1,000 additional lines, and the electronic exchange serving the Sahab Industrial City should be developed to help promote the activities of the industrial concerns established there (Petra photo).

Government plans to increase cost of state-supplied water to farmers

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The government is planning to increase the cost of state-supplied water to farmers for agricultural purposes as part of reforms in the various sectors towards restructuring the economy, informed sources said Wednesday.

They said that farmers would have to pay 15 fils per cubic metre of water used for agricultural purposes when the increases take effect before the end of this year. No rise in the cost of drinking water is planned, they said.

The increase will become effective immediately after the government and the World Bank sign a \$70 million to \$75 million agricultural loan to help reform the farming sector of the Kingdom as part of the restructuring programme agreed with the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

No immediate official comment was available

from the government on the proposed increase or the World Bank loan.

One source told the Jordan Times: "Discussions with the World Bank on the credit have reached an advanced stage, and the loan agreement could be signed in the next two months."

The sectoral reforms in Jordan supervised by the World Bank aim at raising the cost efficiency of all sectors by realigning the various factors at work, including tariffs.

The IMF and World Bank see the water cost of farmers as ridiculous since it represents less than 10 per cent of the actual costs involved for pumping and distributing water to the agriculture sector.

More than 70 per cent of all water used in Jordan goes to the farming sector.

The World Bank proposed reforms involve major changes in the agricultural pattern, starting with a shift to less water-consuming crops. For inst-

ance, growers of banana, one of the crops that requires a high quantity of water, would be encouraged to gradually cultivate other fruits and vegetables that require less water, sometimes as low as one third or half of the quantity needed for banana plantations.

"Those who still insist on not moving away from the traditional crops that have been taxing the country's scarce water resources will switch themselves when they find others reaping better harvests at higher prices of other crops," said an expert. "In the meantime, they will also be paying a little bit more realistic price of water."

"The state cannot continue to extend support by blindly making up the difference between the actual cost of water and the charge levied from the farmers," said another expert. "It is simply defeating efforts for self-reliance since there will not be incentive for farmers to improve their crops. For

many years, they have been relaxed with the assurance that water costs are not a problem. But the reality was that the government was paying for their water."

"It makes more sense to produce high-yield crops at lower costs to the benefit of the farmer rather than sticking to established norms and practices which are in effect a major hurdle in the country's move towards basic reforms," added that expert.

The reforms also envisage improvements in the marketing of produce through setting up specialised institutions to handle the purchases from farmers.

The expected \$70 million-\$75 million World Bank loan for the agriculture sector will be co-financed by a foreign government, most probably Germany.

The loan will raise World Bank credit to Jordan in the last two years to \$200 million. World Bank loans

normally carry commercial interest rates on a "cost-plus" basis — meaning commercial bank interest rates for long-term loans plus a small percentage to foot the cost of acquiring and dispersing the amount.

But the actual interest that the beneficiary country will pay will be less than the commercial rates since the co-financing government will levy nominal interest, thus bringing down the actual rate to slightly more than half the rate charged by commercial banks.

In 1994, the World Bank signed two major loan agreements with Jordan. The first provides \$200 million with an equal amount from the government of Japan to help implement reforms in the energy sector. The second involves \$35 million to the telecommunications sector. This amount would be used by the Telecommunications Corporation (TCC) in an expansion programme estimated to cost more than JD 200 million.

Geographic centre, ESCWA to produce hydrological map

By Khattab Salman
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The Royal Jordanian Geographic Centre (RJGC) Wednesday announced it would sign a contract Thursday with the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) to produce a hydrological map and assessment of water resources in the SCWA region using remote sensing techniques.

The contract will be signed by ESCWA's headquarters in Amman by Director General of RJGS Mohammad Haleefah, and Executive Secretary General of ESCWA, Sabah Bakjaji. JGS spokesperson Samir Abbadi told the Jordan Times.

"The RJGS won the tender for the project after bidding in a public tender in the SCWA region's countries as floated in 1992," Mr. Abbadi said.

He added that the \$375,000 contract is expected to be finished by the end of 1995. The maps should show details on ground water flow patterns, water quality, water table, aquifer boundaries, ex-

isting development areas, and potential areas for future development, Mr. Abbadi said.

"They will include ESCWA's regional hydrological map showing the major catchment areas, drainage lines, major rivers, lakes and other major water bodies. They will also include ESCWA's regional hydrogeological map showing major aquifers, flow patterns and other hydrogeologically relevant features, and maps showing major shared ground water basins such as the Ordovician ground water basin shared between Jordan and Saudi Arabia; Damman aquifer shared between Saudi Arabia, the UAE, Iraq and Bahrain; and the carbonate rock aquifer (upper Cretaceous-Paleocene) shared between Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Iraq and Syria" he explained.

The work assignment of the contract will include formulating options for water resources development and management focusing on shared water resources with special emphasis on the mentioned basins.

The RJGC will also forward the project's outcome and activities to an expert group meeting for the purpose of evaluation, as well as making available the facilities required, including lecturing and vocational training through a 10-day workshop on remote sensing (RS) and geographic information system (GIS) technologies, as applied in the project for trainees from the ESCWA's countries, according to Mr. Abbadi.

The work assignment will also include providing RS data (photos, tapes) with adequate aerial and seasonal cloud coverage and adequate scales to fulfill the project objectives, obtain hydrological, hydrogeological, and land use data for the ESCWA region as required for the project with the assistance of ESCWA's conventional hydrogeological and hydrological data, and analyze and interpret, in an integrated manner, using the GIS technology, the RS data and the ground information in order to produce the necessary maps of water resources and related natural resources, he said.

U.S. grants \$7.6m to enhance services at Kingdom's major historical sites

AMMAN (J.T.) — Minister of Planning Hisham Khatib, U.S. Ambassador to Jordan Wesley W. Egan, and U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) Director of Mission in Jordan William T. Oliver Wednesday signed an agreement granting the Kingdom an initial \$7.6 million for the new five-year Cultural and Environmental Resources Management project.

According to a U.S. embassy statement, an additional \$4.4 million will be granted over the life of the

project.

The Cultural and Environmental Resources Management project, which will be implemented in cooperation with the Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities and selected non-governmental organisations, will help preserve specific cultural and archaeological sites in Jordan, improve services provided to visitors and ensure that the communities at those sites benefit from the new economic opportunities provided by the increased number of visitors.

The project will also highlight the importance of the sites in Jordan through explanatory panels and educational programmes.

Three sites, Petra, the Amman Citadel and Madaba, will benefit during the first phase of this project. Other sites will be designated to benefit during the second phase.

Also Wednesday, the three officials signed an amendment to a \$6 million grant agreement between the U.S. and Jordan.

The amendment provides

Jordan an additional \$1 million for the Family Health Services (FHS) project initiated jointly in 1991 by the Ministry of Health and USAID to improve the quality and cost-efficiency of basic and primary health care services extended to the public, particularly in the field of mother and child primary health care.

The additional funds granted will be used mainly to cover the costs of equipment and supplies as well as training of primary health

care personnel.

Another aspect of the FHS project is the creation of a model quality improvement and cost-containment programme.

The pilot programme is being developed and tested at the Salt Hospital and selected primary and comprehensive health centres in the Balqa region.

"If the pilot programme is found successful after careful evaluation, it will be implemented in the other regions of the Kingdom."

Zarqa police arrest 11 burglary suspects

By Rana Hussein
Special to the Jordan Times

ZARQA — Zarqa police Wednesday announced the arrest over a three-week period of 11 suspects responsible for 73 burglaries in different parts of Zarqa, according to Brigadier Abdul Kader Oran, director of the Zarqa Police Department.

Brig. Oran said the latest arrest took place on Sept. 19, when police apprehended three juveniles, all aged 15, suspected of burglarising more than 37 houses during the daytime in Zarqa suburbs.

He said the three suspects would knock at victim's homes; if they received an answer, they would claim that they were seeking houses for rent; if not, he added, they would break into the house, steal jewellery and electronic equipment and escape.

"Our investigations led us to three juveniles who were staying at Osama Bin Zaid Juvenile Centre, and after questioning them they confessed," he said during a press conference.

Brig. Oran said that the juveniles led him to a 33-year-old man, who they said was giving them information on which houses to target.

Moreover, the official added that the man would take the stolen goods and sell them. He used four women to sell the jewellery in Zarqa and Amman, Brig. Oran

said. The police director called on anyone who was burglarised to go to Zarqa Police Department to identify their stolen goods.

Brig. Oran said that the authorities also arrested one person in Zarqa in his early 20s responsible for burglarising shops in downtown Zarqa.

According to Brig. Oran, Zarqa police received several complaints almost daily in the past two weeks from shopowners who said that they had been burglarised.

He said that after days of monitoring the area, they arrested a young man while he was attempting to break down the door of one of the shops.

"After we arrested him, he confessed to all 15 shop burglaries and he retracted the crimes," he said.

Zarqa police also apprehended a man who was burglarising houses in the daytime in Al Hussein suburb in Zarqa.

On Sept. 17, police received complaints from individuals about someone stealing construction materials.

Brig. Oran said two suspects were involved in the theft of building materials from 13 construction sites.

According to Brig. Oran, most of the suspects had previous records and were unemployed. He did not identify any of the suspects, but said they resided in Zarqa.



Retrieved stolen goods are put on display for retrieval by owners at the Zarqa Police Department

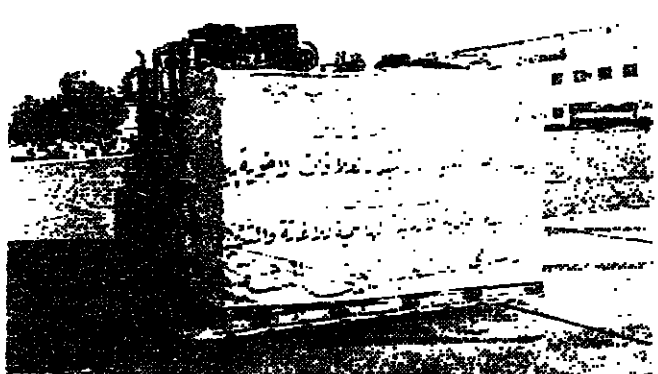
Health workers head for Yemen

AMMAN (J.T.) — A 22-member medical team including doctors, surgeons, technicians and nurses Wednesday left for Sanaa to take charge of a hospital and offer medical assistance to the Yemeni people, mainly those wounded in the civil war.

The team will offer integrated services at the Sanaa Hospital before moving on to Aden to take charge of the management of a hospital here, said Abdul Salam Al Abbadi, minister of Awqaf and Islamic affairs, who saw the medical team off.

The group, which was organised by the Jordanian Hashemite Charitable Organisation in cooperation with the health ministry and the Jordan Medical Association (JMA), includes health care workers of different specialisations, said Dr. Abbadi. Dr. Abbadi said that the team has been supplied with medical equipment and medicines for the two hospitals' needs.

His Royal Highness Prince Ghazi Ben Muhammad saw



Medical cargo Wednesday is prepared for transport to Yemen by a group of volunteer health workers head for Aden and Sanaa to help wounded victims of the civil war (Petra photo)

the team off on behalf of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan who is on a visit to Europe.

JMA President Isahq Maraga told the Jordan Times that various professional associations in Jordan participated in covering the cost of the equipment and medicine being sent to Yemen.

He said that the JMA's

seven-member team which was sent earlier to Yemen at the end of the conflict accomplished little because there was an urgent need for integrated services that were lacking, as well as medicines which were in short supply. Dr. Maraga said that this time, the team is an integrated one and is transporting necessary medical equipment and medicines.

WHAT'S GOING ON

FOLKLORIC DANCES

★ Circassian folkloric performance at the Royal Cultural Centre on Thursday and Friday at 8:00 p.m.

FIELD TRIP

★ Field trip organised by the Friends of Archaeology (FOA) to Ajlun and Zoubia Nature Reserve on Friday. Departure will be from the FOA centre in private cars at 9:00 a.m.

FILMS

★ Film entitled "The Right Stuff" at the American Center on Thursday at 5:00 p.m. (193 minutes).

★ Spanish film entitled "Carmen" at the Instituto Cervantes (the Spanish Cultural Centre) on Thursday at 6:00 p.m. (Tel. 610858).

FESTIVAL

★ Festival entitled "Festival of Cooperation and Belong-

ing" on the YWCA's 25th anniversary at the YWCA premises, Third Circle on Friday (9:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m.).

CONCERT

★ Concert at the Royal Cultural Centre on Thursday at 6:00 p.m.

POETRY RECITAL

★ Poetry recital by Poet Jabra Ibrahim Jabra entitled "Scent of Rock" (accompanied by live music) at the Byzantine Church site off Darat Al Funun of the Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation in Jabal Luweibdeh at 7:00 p.m.

MUSICAL PERFORMANCE

★ Musical performance by musician Walid Al Hashim at the Phoenix Gallery for Culture and Art on Thursday at 7:00 p.m.

Heat wave ends

AMMAN — The heatwave which affected Jordan in the past weeks is finally over, just in time for autumn, said the Department of Meteorology Wednesday. Temperatures will drop gradually reaching a maximum of 29°C Thursday and decreasing to 16°C at night in the Amman area, said a department spokesman. The official said temperatures expected over the coming week will be around their annual average with light to moderate north-westerly winds. He added that night and day hours will be equal around the globe.

RESOURCE INDONESIA '94

THE 9TH NATIONAL MERCHANDISE
AND COMMODITY SHOW
October 25 - 30, 1994

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For further information, please contact:

THE EMBASSY OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA
17, Deir Al-Zour Street, Abdoun
P.O. Box 811784 Amman
Phone: 828911, 828912, 821648
Fax: 828380
Telex: 23872 Indoam Jo

The Organizer:

MINISTRY OF TRADE, REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA
National Agency for Export Development (NAFED)
Jl. Gajah Mada No. 8
Jakarta 10130, Indonesia
P.O. Box 1443
Phone: 062-21-360353, 362666, 3446692
Fax: 062-21-3844588, 3848380, 3853135
Telex: 46292 NAFED LA

S.African Zulu politicians defy king



Mangosuthu Buthelezi

DURBAN, South Africa (R) — Zulu politicians said Wednesday they would go ahead with weekend tribal celebrations in defiance of their king, despite fears this could spark violence within South Africa's biggest ethnic group.

King Goodwill Zwelithini Tuesday severed ties with the country's leading Zulu politician, Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi, and cancelled next weekend's Shaka Day celebrations marking the founding of the Zulu nation.

But Kwazulu-Natal Premier Frank Mdlalose, provincial leader of Mr. Buthelezi's Zulu-based Inkatha Freedom Party, made clear the celebrations would go ahead anyway.

The premier is pressing ahead and the function will go ahead, "provincial spokesman Themba Mkhosi Memele told Reuters.

Mr. Memele said Mr. Mdlalose had given orders that the celebrations honouring the early 19th century Zulu warrior King Shaka should take place Saturday and Sunday.

He said plans were too far advanced for them to be cancelled. But he also said fresh bloodletting could break out in the killing fields of Kwazulu-Natal.

"Of course there may be tension, conflict... It has the potential to become a very violent conflict," he said.

A spokesman for the royal family said the decision would anger the king and the royal family.

"They are obviously not happy with that. They expected the decision not to be violated. If the Kwazulu-Natal government is going ahead, defying the king's directive, they are defying the (royal) institution," he said.

King Goodwill, monarch of the nine million Zulus, said Tuesday he feared his life was in danger from Inkatha supporters.

A committee of the king's aides said the king would have nothing more to do with Mr. Buthelezi, a bitter rival of President Nelson Mandela and the African National Congress (ANC), although they serve together in the government of national unity.

The Zulu chief is South Africa's home affairs minister. The king issued a statement rejecting Mr. Buthelezi's self-proclaimed role as traditional prime minister of the Zulus.

Political analysts said the bitter row could threaten South Africa's delicate political balance as it seeks economic advancement and foreign investment to help redress black poverty and other legacies of apartheid.

They feared it could lead to renewed bloodletting in the Zulu heartland, where more than 10,000 people have died in political feuding between Inkatha and the ANC in the past decade.

A senior ANC leader in Kwazulu-Natal, Harry Gwala, said the situation had to be halted before it got out of control.

"There is real conflict and that is very, very, very explosive. We pray that it doesn't explode, that we go back to the '80s when we had a lot of violence," Mr. Gwala said.

Mr. Buthelezi has said it was beyond the powers of the king to cancel the celebrations.

Some analysts said the latest developments were a sign that King Goodwill was moving closer to the ANC, which won April all-race elections by a large majority.

Inkatha, however, retained control of Kwazulu-Natal in the polls.

Royal family members denied that the king was moving to the ANC, saying that as Zulu monarch he was above party politics.

Aung San Suu Kyi, Burma junta talks welcomed

BANGKOK (R) — Detained dissident Aung San Suu Kyi's first meeting with the Burmese junta's top generals focuses attention on whether and when the charismatic democracy leader will be freed, diplomats said Wednesday.

Burmese state television Tuesday night broadcast pictures of the meeting earlier that day between the 49-year-old Suu Kyi, now in her sixth year of house arrest, and junta chief General Than Shwe and military intelligence chief Lieutenant-General Khin Nyunt.

The broadcast, monitored in Bangkok, did not say how long the meeting lasted. Nor did it give details about the discussion, except to say it was cordial.

Viewers saw brief pictures of a smiling and relaxed Suu Kyi, in a pink traditional shirt and sarong, talking to the general across a table decorated with flowers.

The talks received a guarded welcome from diplomats and Burmese dissidents who said it was an important first step.

"Whether image they are

trying to portray or news they are trying to gain, the fact is, whether it was stage-managed or not, the meeting took place," one Western diplomat in a telephone interview.

"It's a step in the right direction and hopefully the start of a series of meetings, a series of discussions between the two parties," he said.

Burma's state-run newspapers Wednesday carried a brief report of the meeting, again giving no details, and three large photographs of Suu Kyi with the generals.

"It is a quantum leap in form if not in substance," said one Bangkok-based diplomat. "Of course the two sides are poles apart, they could not settle it in one meeting."

Tuesday's talks at an army guest house in Rangoon were the first Ms. Suu Kyi, the daughter of Burma's assassinated independence hero Aung San, has had with leaders of the junta which took power in September 1988 after crushing a pro-democracy uprising.

It was also the first time she has been allowed out of

the compound of her lakeside house since she was detained in July 1989 for "attempting to endanger the state."

"Of course this will raise questions about when she will be released but it's impossible to say. We just can't say if it's relevant to the question of her release," another diplomat said.

Earlier this year a senior official of the junta — officially known as the State Law and Order Restoration Council (SLORC) — told visiting reporters Ms. Suu Kyi would remain under house arrest at least until 1995.

The junta has in the past offered to free her on condition she leaves the country, but she has ignored the offers. In February, she told visiting U.S. Congressman Bill Richardson exile was the only thing she would refuse to discuss with the military.

"I'm sure they still want her to leave but they realise that is not on the agenda," another diplomat said. "I think her refusal to leave is why in the end they have had a talk to her."

One source said that Ms.

Suu Kyi had let it be known that she was prepared to put the question of her release "on the back burner" in order to get a dialogue started.

The SLORC was still nervous about the consequences of freeing the hugely-popular Suu Kyi, diplomats said.

Opponents of the junta welcomed the meeting but some warned it might merely be a move by the regime to lower the heat of international disapproval.

"We would like to welcome this. It should not be a one-time meeting but must be followed by deeds and dialogue," said Sein Win, the leader of a jungle-based dissident government set up by members of Ms. Suu Kyi's political party after it swept elections in 1990 but was denied power by the junta.

Both diplomats and Burmese dissidents noted the meeting comes in the run-up to the United Nations General Assembly session, where the regime is condemned regularly for alleged human rights abuses and its suppression of democracy.

Pakistan says India breaks Kashmir ceasefire

ISLAMABAD (R) — Pakistan said Wednesday that Indian troops shooting across the ceasefire line in divided Kashmir had killed three people and wounded five this month.

"The Indian forces seem to be deliberately targeting innocent civilians across the line of control," a Foreign Ministry spokesman said. He warned of "disastrous consequences" if India did not observe the ceasefire agreement.

The spokesman said one Pakistani soldier and two civilians had been killed and five civilians wounded by Indian gunfire across the ceasefire line between Sept. 7 and 12.

He said Indian troops had killed seven civilians and wounded 31 near the line in July. He had no figures for August.

The spokesman said the U.N. military observer group in India and Pakistan (UNMOGIP), which patrols only on the Pakistani side of the line, had lodged 142 ceasefire violations by India in the past month, including an attack on UNMOGIP observers last week.

U.N. Secretary General Boutros Ghali said this month in Islamabad that the situation on the ceasefire line had worsened. He urged India and Pakistan to hold peace talks.

"Pakistan hopes that India will observe the ceasefire agreement on the line of control and would exercise caution and restraint and refrain from carrying out its threats to further escalate tension along the line of control. This could have disastrous consequences," the Pakistani spokesman said.

Pakistan and India have fought two of their three wars since independence from Britain in 1947 over Kashmir.

Tensions between the regional rivals have increased since 1990 when Muslim militants launched a revolt against Indian rule in the two-thirds of Kashmir under New Delhi's control.

India accuses Pakistan of arming, training and financing the militants. Islamabad says it gives them only moral support.

Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto's government is seeking international support for a diplomatic assault on India over Kashmir at the current U.N. General Assembly session.

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Discovery makes flawless California landing

EDWARDS AIR FORCE BASE, Calif. (AP) — No sooner had Discovery and its crew of six made a perfect landing in the Mojave Desert than NASA resumed planning the next space shuttle mission, 10 days away.

The interval between Discovery's 2:13 p.m. landing Tuesday and the planned Sept. 30 launch of Endeavour would fall just short of the nine-day record set last year.

"Any kind of turnaround that short...is quite an accomplishment," shuttle manager Loren Shriver said after Discovery's wheels touched down on a concrete strip along a dry lakebed.

Shriver said Endeavour's engines have been replaced since they shut down 1.9 seconds before takeoff last month.

Discovery's smooth landing in clear blue skies was marred only by the failure of part of a navigation system, although backup units took over without incident. The easy descent followed an 11-day, 4,577-mile (7,371-kilometre) journey highlighted by the first untethered spacewalk in a decade.

The approaching shuttle generated a pair of thunderous sonic booms that rattled windows throughout the Los Angeles area, 70 miles (112 kilometres) away.

The landing drew 300 to 400 visitors to a hillside viewing stand and another 1,000 NASA employees watched from the base.



Joe's 1st phone call: 25 hours and \$1,500

LONDON (AFP) — The bill for Joe Williams' first telephone call came to £1,018 (\$1,527), and he will have plenty to say about it when he learns to talk.

Joe, who is one year old, was playing with the phone at his grandmother's house when he unwittingly hit an automatic dial button, cued to relatives in St. Lucia in the Caribbean, 4,000 miles (6,400 kilometres) away.

Whoever answered failed to retain his attention, and Joe put down the phone, but missed the receiver, and the line stayed open for 25 hours.

British Telephone said this week that an automatic mechanism that breaks the connection after a minute's silence had not engaged, and agreed to write off the charge. The photograph shows Joe playing with a telephone.

U.K. Liberal Democrats reject vote on monarchy

BRIGHTON, England (AFP) — Britain's third party, the Liberal Democrats, Tuesday overwhelmingly rejected a referendum on the abolition of the monarchy — sparing party leaders fresh political defeat.

Instead, delegates at the party's annual conference voted for "a radical trimming" of the civil list used to pay the expenses of Queen Elizabeth II and 10 other royals.

They also called for a redefinition of the role of the royal family, excluding the monarch.

But they clearly defeated a motion from the party's youth and students section seeking the replacement of the monarch by an elected president when the queen's reign ends.

Following the tumultuous debate — the first of its kind among the mainstream parties — there were jubilant scenes at the conference hall in Brighton and flag-waving pro-monarchist students burst into a chorus of God Save the Queen.

The vote was a welcome respite for party leader Paddy Ashdown, who earlier suffered two embarrassing setbacks from the conference. On Tuesday delegates ignored his advice and voted for a minimum wage to help

the low paid, and on Monday they voted in favour of the decriminalisation of cannabis.

Liberal Democrat sources, who dismissed the leadership's defeat in the cannabis vote, insisted it was subject to the main motion, which called for a Royal Commission to examine the whole drugs issue.

In the monarchy debate Chief Whip Archy Kirkwood issued a rallying call: "The party has got to become a bit more politically street-wise."

"Sometimes it is necessary to make big political gestures in politics, but not here and not now."

But Liberal Democrat Youth and Students Chairman Alex Wilcock, urged: "We cannot any longer give the top job in the country just to the first born of a particular family. I don't want privilege as a symbol of what this country is."

The latest polling on Liberal Democrat policies found supporters at odds with the party's commitment to closer ties with Europe.

An ICM survey in Wednesday's Guardian found 45 per cent of Liberal Democrat voters did not want a closer relationship with Europe while 44 per cent did, and nine per cent had no preference.

Paris fans hail Chung's last opera

PARIS (AFP) — Paris opera-goers cheered and clapped ousted South Korean conductor Myung-Whun Chung when he reappeared for the premiere of his final opera here. The fans hurled bouquets of flowers and clapped for long periods when Chung walked on and gave him a standing ovation at the close of Verdi's Simon Boccanegra. Forty-one-year-old Chung, who has achieved great popularity in his five years as musical director, was fired on Aug. 12, but a court ordered the opera to allow him to direct Simon Boccanegra. Under a court-brokered compromise, the opera will pay Chung a golden handshake of two years' salary — more than 2.6 million francs (\$528,000). On Monday, the fans shouted for the resignation of Jean-Paul Cluzel, opera interim director-general who fired Chung and locked him out of rehearsals. An association on Chung's admirers handed out leaflets pledging "undying support" and expressing "shame" at the treatment of a maestro "whose work over five years has been recognised by all." But fans booed some of the singers and German director Nicolas Brieger while others objected to set designer Gilbert Jackel, also from Germany. Chung, brother of the violinist Kyung-Wha Chung and now a U.S. citizen, was sacked after he refused to renegotiate his contract, which dates from Dec. 22, 1992 and expires on August 2000. The Gaullist administration of Prime Minister Edouard Balladur had appointed a new management to replace flamboyant Pierre Berge in a cost-cutting exercise.

Sophia Loren celebrates 60th birthday

ROME (AP) — Actress Sophia Loren started off her 60th birthday with an old routine: Up at 6 a.m., six newspapers and a mid-morning snack of pizza with prosciutto. Then she celebrated with pasta specially prepared by her sister, champagne and cake. Toasting her Tuesday was a score of photographers she invited at the end of lunch, for a taste of dessert, as well as her husband, producer Carlo Ponti; niece Alessandra Mussolini, the parliamentary deputy who is the granddaughter of the late dictator Benito Mussolini and the daughter of Loren's sister, Maria Scicolone, who has a reputation as a wonderful cook. Among the gifts, the Italian News Agency (ANSA) reported, were an antique ring studded with diamonds and emeralds, from Ponti; a dressing gown from her sister, and a nightgown in a print of roses from Ms. Mussolini.

I say, we still queue for the bus in Britain

LONDON (R) — One of Britain's most treasured traditions is at risk. London's Transport Authority is scrapping a rule making people line up in an orderly queue at bus stops. London Transport Authority decided to scrap the regulation, which is not enforced but usually rigidly observed, after lawyers discovered it during a campaign to get rid of red tape. The rule was passed in 1958 and scrapping it will involve a vote in parliament. But a London Transport Authority spokesman said Wednesday the traditional orderly line at bus stops — and the traditional howls of rage when unwitting tourists jump the queue — will not disappear. "This is not the end of the queue," he said. "People in Britain are so well behaved. They queue even when we don't want them to queue. When one of our inspectors says 'please use all the doors,' they still queue."

Models aide wets down paparazzo

ROME (AP) — It's hard life for paparazzi, that pesky breed of Italian photographers. Model Claudia Schiffer was lurching outdoors in Piazza Del Popolo when her hairdresser threw the melted water in the wine bucket at a group of photographers trying to snap her photo, said Alfredo Tomassini, owner of the restaurant Il Bolognese. "It wasn't her idea" to splash the water, said Tomassini. "In fact, she went inside the restaurant a little shook up." The hairdresser's name was not immediately known and could not be reached for comment.



Viktor Ampilov (left) one of the leaders of the 1993 rebellion and president of the Workers Communist Party, meets with a group of demonstrators near the Russian Parliament during the anniversary of the beginning of the 1993 October's coup (AFP photo)

start of 14 days of anti-government rallies marking the anniversary of last year's failed putsch.

Swathed in red flags, a score of die-hards gathered in front of the building to denounce President Yeltsin a year to the day after he abolished the parliament, accusing it of systematically blocking reform initiatives over the previous year.

The attempted coup that followed two weeks later ended with government tanks firing on the White House.

"We want the current fascist regime to leave, its hands

are soaked with blood," said 62-year-old Yevgenia Orionova, who took up her position at dawn.

The opposition — led in the "bloody October" uprising by Yeltsin's deputy, then Vice President Alexander Rutskoi — has called for forceful demonstrations against Mr. Yeltsin's government.

Opposition spokesman, representing a motley array of diehard Communists and far-right nationalists, said they intend to demonstrate until Oct. 4, the anniversary of the military assault by govern-

ment troops that ended the revolt by conservative deputies holed up in the White House.

"There are very few of us right now, but we're only beginning," said Viktor Amilov. "I am going to go tour the factories to spread the word, and there are soon going to be a whole lot more of us."

Opposition members said they hoped to gather thousands of people later Wednesday for a march in central Moscow from Pushkin Square to Theatre Square, close to the Kremlin.



The corpses of Rwandan refugees lay in a mass grave outside the eastern Zairean town of Goma. The refugees have not been buried for four days due to a dispute involving

their relatives and Zairean soldiers, seeking part of the money paid to gave diggers (AFP photo)

U.N. finds another Rwanda massacre site

KIGALI, Rwanda (Agencies) — U.N. troops have found another massacre site in southwest Rwanda, this one containing the badly decomposed corpses of 4,000 people, a U.N. official said Wednesday.

At least 2,000 of the victims lay unburied at Gafunzu, near the shores of Lake Kivu about 125 kilometres (76 miles) southwest of Kigali, said U.N. military spokesman Major Jean-Guy Plante. The corpses, reported by a U.N. patrol Tuesday, were in a state of advanced decomposition, indicating the massacre occurred during ethnic slaughter that began in April.

About half the victims were buried in a mass grave. U.N. officials did not say if the victims were members of the Hutu majority or the Tutsi minority tribes.

Civilian Hutu militias, many of whom escaped to refugee camps in Zaire, have been blamed for the deaths of at least 500,000 people, most of them from the minority Tutsi ethnic group, since April.

"This is an old incident," Maj. Plante said. No further details were available.

Earlier this month, an Australian U.N. military medical team reported finding about 1,400 decomposed corpses at separate sites, also in southwest Rwanda near the Zaire border.

The grim discoveries are the latest of several massacre sites located by U.N. peacekeepers in recent weeks.

About 400 corpses were

found in a church at Ntarama, 40 kilometres (25 miles) south of Kigali recently, a few kilometres from another mass grave containing 600 bodies.

U.N. officials say entire families were wiped out, and local communities either fled or didn't dare organise burial groups.

Most massacre victims were hacked or bludgeoned to death with machetes and clubs during ethnic killings triggered by the assassination of Hutu President Juvenal Habyarimana on April 6.

Tutsi-led rebels of the Rwandan Patriotic Front (RPF) fought their way to power in July.

From June 23 through August, French troops cordoned off a safe zone in southwest Rwanda to provide refuge for Rwandans fleeing the fighting.

An estimated 450,000 displaced Rwandans settled in the southwest as some 2 million refugees fled across the border into neighbouring countries.

The U.N. is scheduled next week to launch Operation Homeward Bound, a programme to transport about 4,000 people a day from the southwest to their homes in the east of the country.

A British convoy carried about 1,000 people out of camps for the displaced in the southwest Monday, about half the number U.N. officials had hoped to move.

"A rumour of reprisal killings were around the camps the night before. It was a disruption campaign to stop people leaving," said Maj.

Mark Hiscuit, a British spokesman.

In refugee camps in neighbouring Zaire, Hutu extremists have killed refugees planning to return home to live under the new Tutsi-led government.

A grenade attack by an unknown assailant on a market killed five Rwandan refugees, setting off a riot among refugees who have become increasingly militant, officials said Wednesday.

The refugees fought Zairean soldiers, who restored order at the Chimanga camp after about an hour Tuesday, but worried U.N. refugee officials were rushing their chief security adviser to the camp.

"It was a very serious security incident, and we are afraid that the rioting may spread to other areas," Captain Declan O'Brien, a member of the Irish Army contingent in Zaire, told the Associated Press.

Chimanga, 80 kilometres from Bukavu in eastern Zaire, is home to 15,000 Hutu refugees.

Capt. O'Brien said 20 people were wounded when someone lobbed a grenade at the marketplace, which is adjacent to the camp.

No deaths or injuries were reported in the riot, Lyndalla Sachs, a spokeswoman for the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees, said she had no other details.

The riot reflects a growing militancy among the refugees, which would be a serious security concern, said Ms. Sachs.

"Such incidents indeed

make us worry a lot, as they are a reflect recipe for starting a chain of security incidents," she said.

Meanwhile, U.N. officials reported that Hutus who have returned to their homes in Rwanda are coming back to the camps in Zaire.

At least 470 Hutu refugees came back to Zaire in the past four days, Ms. Sachs said. She said they were harassed in Rwanda, but did not give details of why they returned to Zaire.

In the past month, an estimated 45,000 Hutu refugees have gone back to Rwanda, most of them women, children and old men.

Meanwhile a group of Japanese soldiers left Wednesday to help Rwandan relief efforts, underscoring Japan's desire to serve as a non-combatant in United Nations peacekeeping operations.

The 23 Japanese soldiers, accompanied by their defence minister, are the advance guard for a party that will join the international operation to care for millions of refugees.

They departed on the same day that Foreign Minister Yohsei Kono left for the United States to tell the United Nations that Japan wants a permanent seat on the Security Council but can only take part in non-military operations.

Mr. Kono has said he will appeal to the United Nations to give Japan a seat without changing its 1947 "peace constitution", which forbids the threat or use of force to settle international disputes.

Bosnian Serbs remove banned guns from Sarajevo — U.N.

SARAJEVO (R) — U.N. peacekeepers said Wednesday that Bosnian Serb forces were pulling banned guns out of the Sarajevo heavy weapons exclusion zone, while big power envoys pressed for the total isolation of their political leaders.

Senior U.N. sources said they threatened the Serbs with NATO air strikes after at least three banned weapons were spotted inside the exclusion zone around the Bosnian capital.

"They are currently being removed as far as we know," U.N. spokesman Tim Spicer said.

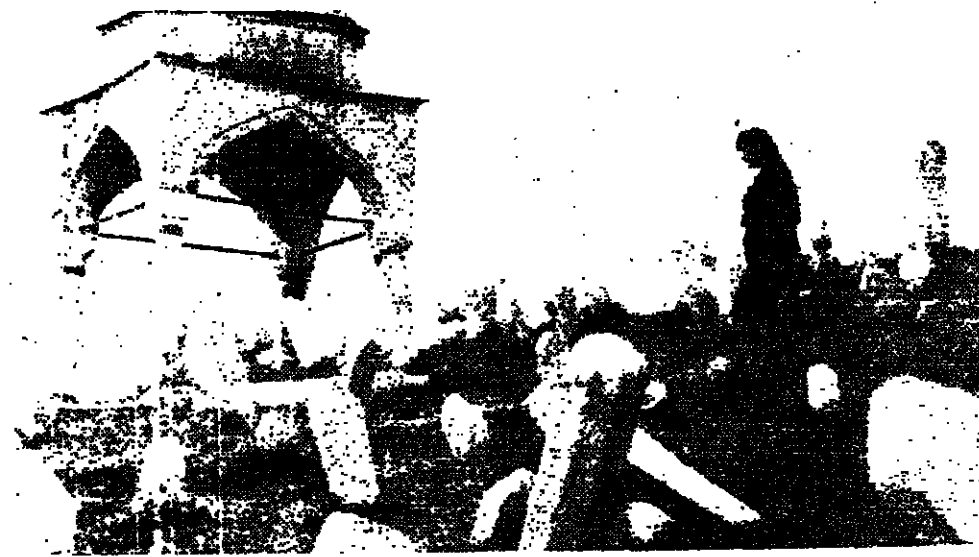
U.N. troops will carry out intensive ground monitoring over the next 24 hours to ensure they had gone from the hills around Sarajevo where the first winter snows fell overnight.

Mr. Spicer denied a statement by the U.N. sources that the Serbs were given a deadline of midnight (2200 GMT) Wednesday for the removal of the weapons, but warned: "There's no intention of letting anybody off the hook."

Another U.N. spokesman said: "The focus in Sarajevo today is on clearing the zone. We've got to get things taken care of to make sure the weapons are being taken out or being put in collection centres."

The Bosnian Serbs have constantly flouted the exclusion zone which the U.N. imposed in February when a NATO ultimatum forced the Serbs to pull their siege guns out of range of Sarajevo.

The U.N. sources said peacekeeping commander General Sir Michael Rose cracked down on them after



A woman walks through an old Muslim cemetery overlooking the Bosnian capital Sarajevo. The city has been without water, gas or electricity for nearly a week now, after Bosnian Serbs cut the supply lines last Wednesday (AFP photo)

his forces detected up to 18 illegal weapons hidden in the zone. Fifteen of the guns have already been removed.

Pressure is building on Gen. Rose to use NATO air power to punish Bosnian Serb transgressions despite Russian opposition to the involvement of alliance warplanes and the risk they would upset floundering peace negotiations even more.

Officials of a big power contact group met Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic in Belgrade Wednesday to press for Yugoslavia's help in intensifying the isolation of the Bosnian Serbs.

Mr. Milosevic has already imposed a military blockade on his former Bosnian allies to punish them for rejecting the big powers' peace plan for Bosnia.

He is being rewarded by

the easing of U.N. sanctions which have crippled the Yugoslav economy since 1992 but has been criticised by political opponents in Belgrade.

NATO air strikes would give additional ammunition to Serb nationalists in Yugoslavia who accuse Mr. Milosevic of betraying the Bosnian Serbs.

Opposition Democratic Party leader Vojislav Kostunica accused Mr. Milosevic of making "humiliating concessions" to the international community.

Some Serbian commentators have been angered by a 100-day probation period proposed by the U.N. to ensure the blockade of the Bosnian Serbs is leak-proof.

The U.N. has proposed lifting its ban on international flights to Yugoslavia and resuming sporting links but

these sanctions would be automatically reimposed if Yugoslavia were caught breaking the blockade during the 100 days.

The critics were attacked by Vuk Draskovic, another opposition leader, who told a radio interviewer: "The 100-day probation period would not have happened if the world hadn't got the impression that there exists in Serbia a powerful current in favour of the war option."

Sarajevo Airport reopened to relief flights again Wednesday after having been closed twice earlier in the week when aircraft were fired at.

A meeting between Bosnian Serbs and Muslims at the airport failed to agree on resuming water, gas and electricity supplies to the city which the Serbs cut last Thursday.

Beijing gunman was an army officer

BEIJING (AFP) — Chinese authorities Wednesday identified the gunman who massacred eight people in a street rampage here as Tian Mingjian, an army first lieutenant stationed in the capital's suburbs.

Xinhua News Agency said Lt. Tian, slain by police after Tuesday's shooting, had been disciplined for beating a soldier before he hijacked a jeep toward an expatriate district where he opened fire with an AK-47 assault rifle.

When it was all over an Iranian diplomat and his young son were dead along with six Chinese. More than 30 other early-morning commuters were wounded before Lt. Tian was gunned down near the Jian Guo Men Wai diplomats' compound.

The official news agency did not give Lt. Tian's age and other personal details, or specify which unit he served with.

Xinhua said Beijing Vice Mayors Li Runwu and Meng Xuenong visited the wounded in hospital and expressed condolences to the families of those slain.

Meanwhile, Iranian sources said a delegation of Iranian experts was due in Beijing Thursday to investigate the killing of Youssef Mohammadi Pishknari, 35, and his nine-year-old son. A Foreign Ministry official will lead the team.

The gunman walked along a highway shooting at passing vehicles. The diplomat was taking his four children to school when he was shot. Two of his children were among the wounded.

The incident left a sense of shock in the Chinese capital Wednesday. The city was abuzz with talk about Lt. Tian, who apparently killed a senior officer before going on his rampage. Xinhua first reported a shooting incident at 6:40 a.m. Tuesday.

"You can only wonder how that occurred, in a police state like China," a foreign diplomat said. Witnesses who saw the massacre said the gunman walked calmly along the Beijing ring road, covering a distance of at least 300 metres, opening fire at traffic and passersby and reloading as each clip of ammunition ran out.



United Nations Secretary General Boutros Ghali (left) shakes hands with Amara Essy, foreign minister of the Ivory Coast, after Mr. Essy presided over the first session of the 49th annual U.N. General Assembly. Mr. Essy was elected as president of the General Assembly at the beginning of the session (AFP photo)

U.N. General Assembly opens with appeal to aid 'martyred' Africa

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — The first African to head the General Assembly in six years appealed to the world body not to neglect his "martyred continent" as it struggles to cope with civil wars, famines and other crises.

Amara Essy, the foreign minister of Ivory Coast, was elected unanimously under a system of regional rotation at the opening of this year's session.

The annual parade of world leaders begins next Monday, with Presidents Bill Clinton and Boris Yeltsin addressing the 184-nation Assembly.

In his inauguration speech, Mr. Essy called Africa a "long-suffering and martyred continent...adrift...a continent in agony."

But he also said Africa had the ability to reverse tragic trends.

"In spite of many open wounds in Angola, Liberia, Rwanda, Somalia — Africa is regaining confidence and trying to design the broad outlines of its future," he said.

"Africa is neither resigned nor inert in the face of formidable difficulties. It is asserting itself, assuming its responsibilities and taking its destiny in hand."

Mr. Essy, 49, succeeds S.R. Insanally, the ambassador of Guyana, who headed the Assembly for the past year.

Mr. Essy has held several high-level posts, including that of U.N. ambassador from 1981 to 1990. He presided over the Group of 77 developing nations in Geneva from 1977 to 1978 and was vice president of the 43rd General Assembly and president of the Security Council in January 1990.

This year the General Assembly opening is overshadowed by the U.S. landing in Haiti and Haiti will be on the agenda in the three-month session.

The assembly will discuss peacekeeping, human rights, the advancement of women, U.N. financial problems, and conflicts in Rwanda, Bosnia, Somalia, Liberia and elsewhere.

It will also consider expanding the Security Council to include Japan and Germany, and more developing nations.

Taiwan is trying to persuade the Assembly's General Committee to place on the agenda the establishment of a U.N. group to study how the country can get back into the U.N. system.

China and its allies are expected to defeat the Taiwan initiative for a second consecutive year.

Because of new conflicts, more money is going to peacekeeping and humanitarian relief, but not to development programmes. He cited "disenchantment and disappointment," and said donor countries are getting tired.

But he pointed, too, to positive trends in Africa, where he said economies are being liberalised and there is greater popular participation.

"The single party systems have become the exception in our continent and pluralism is becoming the rule," he said.

Sri Lankan Tigers offer compromise

JAFFNA, Sri Lanka (AFP) — Tamil Tiger guerrillas have offered to compromise on their demand for a separate state even though rebels have given a violent response to government moves to end civil war.

The Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) told visiting journalists here they were willing to accept an alternative to secession, provided the constitution guaranteed a settlement recognised by the international community.

LTTE spokesman Anton Balasingham said the Tigers were keen on ceasefire before talks with Prime Minister Chandrika Kumaratunga. The new government partially lifted an economic embargo on LTTE-held territory

earlier this month.

"We are not asking armed forces to withdraw from their (present) position. I don't think there is a disadvantage for them to have a ceasefire," Mr. Balasingham said. An escalation of fighting would be a "waste of human life."

However, on Tuesday, two days after his remarks, an LTTE suicide squad of two men and two women sank a navy patrol craft south west of Jaffna as the navy kept up shelling coastal areas of the northern region under LTTE domination.

Rescue boats picked up 16 sailors and found two bodies. Another 27 seamen were presumed dead after Tiger frogmen exploded a device under the craft "Sagara Wardana" and later rammed it with an

explosive laden speed boat. Tigers also removed two 50-mm long range guns and two smaller 20mm guns from the craft. The LTTE said the attack was carried out by woman Tiger Lieutenant Colonel Nayalini and three others.

But Mr. Balasingham said: "As far as we are concerned a cessation of armed hostilities at this stage when we are trying to build trust is crucial." He added that the Tigers were "very serious in engaging in a political process."

There had been communications between the LTTE supremo Velupillai Prabhakaran and a U.N. mediator. Kumaratunga about opening a dialogue to end the fight for a homeland called Eelam.

Evacuees from New Guinea volcanos wait for aid

TOKUA, Papua New Guinea (AFP) — Australian aid workers at a makeshift airstrip scrambled Wednesday to care for hundreds of hungry evacuees who fled a devastating double volcanic eruption in eastern Papua New Guinea.

About 200 people, wearing only the clothes in which they had left their homes, and looking desperate for food, huddled at the grass airstrip, set out on a plantation here 30 kilometres east of the port of Rabaul, an AFP photographer said.

An Australian Air Force Hercules transport aircraft landed at the strip with supplies that were distributed within an hour, and later left with Australian expatriates who had fled Rabaul and some injured people.

At the small port of Kokopo, hundreds of refugees

were ferried in by boat and gathered on a sports field, some under rickety shelters of corrugated iron and others under a tent made of a tarpaulin stretched across soccer goal posts.

Many evacuees complained of a lack of food and organisation.

David Hughes, an Australian who left Rabaul Wednesday, told reporters that the volcanoes Tavurvur and Vulcan continued to pour out ash and lava after erupting Monday by the port on the north-east tip of New Britain Island, east of the mainland.

The town was blanketed under more than one metre of ash, the weight of debris had collapsed buildings and there was a layer of pumice about a metre thick on the harbour, he said.

Dense volcanic gas, steam and ash restricted visibility in

Rabaul under 100 metres, Hughes said.

He said the situation in Rabaul was "pretty terrible." Police said looting in the town was widespread. Police sergeant Elias Pangoso said he had arrested two looters in a stolen vehicle who had loaded up with goods taken from shops.

About 350 Papua New Guinea Defence Force troops and 40 police were sent to Rabaul from Port Moresby, this southwestern Pacific nation's capital, to check the looting, officials said.

"I would like to warn those people involved to be very careful because the policemen and the soldiers have specific instructions on how to deal with them," Defence Minister Mathias Ijape said.

Mick Jansy, another Australian who left Rabaul Wednesday, said the roof of

his home had collapsed under the weight of ash.

A senior government official meanwhile said fears were rising for the safety of 60 elderly people who chose to remain in Matupit village on a volcanic island between the two erupting volcanoes.

Former Prime Minister Rabbie Namaliu returned from a one-day inspection of the devastation reporting that the 60 villagers "were serious about staying put."

The fate of the little community, caught in a volcanic cross-fire, was unknown.

"Even though they have evacuated close to 50,000 people from the immediate danger zone, Rabaul and surrounding areas, people are still being evacuated from Talvat, Bac, Matalau, Korore, Tavui," Mr. Namaliu said.

Wearing a traditional flowing white robe and brown cap, Chief Abiola spoke of his health to British Deputy High Commissioner Graham Hand, telling him that he was not too unwell but suffered from back pains.

Presiding Judge Chris Senjong rejected a request by one of the defence lawyers, prominent rights activist Femi Falana, to speak in the name of the NMA, ruling that the association itself had not officially asked to appear.

The leading defence counsel, G.O.K. Adajayi asked for the suspension of legal proceedings until another court in Kaduna, northern Nigeria, had ruled on the competence of the Abuja court to try Mr. Abiola.

The bench withdrew to consider this request. The Kaduna court had been due to pronounce its judgement Monday, but has postponed its ruling until Oct. 6.

Lawyers had previously argued that the federal court specially formed here for the trial did not under Nigerian law have the jurisdiction to consider an alleged offence committed in the economic capital Lagos.

media speculation that it was because the two men were involved in a coup plan against Gen. Abacha.

Gen. Abacha, an infantry general who seized power last November, said last week it was not the military's tradition to give public explanations for changes within its ranks.

The partially state-owned daily Times newspaper said Wednesday there were unconfirmed reports that 15 top military officers, including some who served as governors under former President General Ibrahim Babangida, had been retired.

Gen. Abacha said last month when he announced the sacking of the leaders of striking oil workers unions and the labour federation that he planned to reorganise his government to strengthen it.

Political analysts expect more changes in Gen. Abacha's partly civilian cabinet following the sacking last week of former Justice Minister Olu Onagoruwa who publicly disowned new decrees giving the military sweeping powers to deal with the opposition.

Nigerian military reshuffles top brass

LAGOS (R) — Nigeria's ruling military, after surviving attempts by pro-democracy groups to oust it from power, is reshuffling its top brass.

The latest changes in one of Africa's biggest armed forces was the redeployment of 22 senior officers in the air force.

The Nigerian Air Force Headquarters said in a statement Tuesday that the affected officers, including a former state administrator, should move to their new posts by Sept. 26.

No reasons were given for the changes.

Last week, military ruler General Sani Abacha dropped three of Nigeria's 30 state military administrators (governors) and redeployed seven.

The leaderships of both the army and navy have also been reshuffled since their respective heads were sacked last month.

The government gave no reasons for the removal of Chief of Army Staff Major-General Chris Alli and his navy counterpart Rear Admiral Allison Madueke.

But defence headquarters in a statement dismissed

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Rewarding the intransigent?

THE 1994 session of the United Nations General Assembly has started in New York with the usual fanfare but with ominous signs that the U.S. and Israel intend to repeal several key resolutions pertaining to Palestinian rights including those related to Jerusalem, Palestinian refugees and Israeli settlements in the occupied Arab territories. Israel and its Western allies had already succeeded in reversing some U.N. resolutions related to Israel and Israeli practices. One notable example was the annulment of the General Assembly resolution equating Zionism with racism. It appears that the U.S. policy to "reward" Israel for its part in the peace process has gone too far too early. The government of Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin has yet to make good its commitment to implement U.N. Security Council resolution 242 and 338.

There is no denying that the ongoing Arab-Israeli peace talks have registered some meaningful progress but it is obviously too premature to shower Israel with favours when Arab lands are still occupied and Arab people kept captive and Arab rights, especially the Palestinians', are nowhere near realisation. The future of Jerusalem and the fate of Palestinian refugees, slated for discussion only in 1996, according to the PLO-Israeli accord should not be tampered with by altering or repealing standing U.N. resolutions. The various U.N. General Assembly and Security Council resolutions calling on Israel to rescind its annexation of East Jerusalem and guarantee Palestinian refugees' rights are more important and binding, because of their international nature, than the Oslo accords. No party should attempt to amend them without the consent of the Arab countries party to the conflict with Israel in particular and the international community in general. The right of the Palestinians to return to their homeland or accept compensation under resolution 194, is so sacrosanct from the Palestinian point of view that no side may interfere with it or change it, especially at this early stage in the peace negotiations. As for the Israeli settlements, the international community has made clear that they are illegal and has called for their dismantlement.

There are countless U.N. resolutions adopted not only by the General Assembly and the Security Council but also by other organs and bodies of the U.N. system that treated the Israeli colonisation of Arab territories as unlawful under the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949.

Arab countries' representatives at this year's General Assembly meeting are therefore expected to close ranks to frustrate the current efforts by Washington and Tel Aviv to repeal past international resolutions.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

AL RA'Y Arabic daily Wednesday warned against a possible US-Israeli attempt to amend U.N. resolutions concerning the Palestine question, the status of Jerusalem and the question of refugees and settlements. The paper said that the U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher plans to meet Arab foreign ministers in New York before his expected visit to the Middle East, and it stressed that the Arab ministers ought to adopt very firm positions with regard to such U.S.-Israeli attempts, which are designed to undermine any honorable and just peace. Furthermore, the paper referred to US envoy Dennis Ross's visit to the region and demanded the Mr. Ross exercise pressure on Israel to change its position and respond favourably to the requirements of peace. Both the Syrians and the Israelis have been saying that Mr. Ross's current tour constitutes his most important visit to the region to date, and therefore Mr. Ross ought to make the Israelis understand the peace requirements with Damascus and comply with UN resolutions in this matter, said the paper.

A COLUMNIST in Al Dustour Wednesday urged the Finance Ministry to help bring back confidence in the Amman Financial Market so that the investors and dealers in shares can resume their activities normally. He said the recent statements by the Finance Minister, in which he denied any plans to increase taxes, have failed to appease the investors and to bring reassurance to the public and the shareholders. As a result the shares have continued their downward trend over the past week, said Taher Adwan. The investors and shareholders do not oppose the taxation reform programme because a sound economy is a guarantee for their investment and therefore the government ought to adopt a language and pass regulations and take practical steps to create an opportune psychological atmosphere.

The View from Academia

Observing the written word

By Dr. Ahmad Y. Majdoub

IT IS amazing how oblivious, careless and disrespectful many individuals in our present-day society are of the written word. This is both somewhat surprising and ironic, coming from a people who not long ago took to heart whatever they said or wrote, be it secular discourse (i.e. poetry) or sacred literature (the Koran, Hadith, etc.).

Last week, I had the opportunity to watch over two groups of university students sitting for a placement test. One consisted of incoming freshmen, the other of incoming graduate students. As usual, the exams were composed of detailed instructions illustrating what to do and how to answer, a few sheets of questions and an answer sheet.

A colleague of mine and I asked the students to read the instructions carefully, read the instructions slowly to themselves, then explained in plain Arabic what the instructions were about a couple of times. We asked them to write their names in the right-hand corner, not to write anything in the section containing the questions, and to record their answers on the answer sheet. The procedure was quite common-sensical and simple, we thought.

Some of the responses were shocking. A few minutes into the exam, the following things (among others equally upsetting) happened. A) A total of 15 students out of 40 raised their hands to inquire about the same procedural matters which they had read and which had been amply explained to them. Had we not stopped answering queries about instructional and procedural matters, more students would have raised their hands. B) Ten students wrote on the question sheets despite our repeated warnings to the opposite. C) Seven students wrote their names in the left-hand corner.

I could not believe it; neither could my colleague — despite the fact that we experience this surprise every time there is a placement exam.

Clearly, some of these uncalled for foul-ups and annoyances may be attributed to the state of mind students find themselves in whenever they take exams. Quite simply, exams, especially those of the calibre of the test we are talking about here, cause students a great deal of

anxiety; anxiety causes confusion and errors. Furthermore, many students in our part of the world, especially those who go to public schools, are not used to exams with instructions. Most questions they are asked are self-explanatory. This point is not to be taken lightly. Many of our students find the TOEFL or the GRE difficult, in part because of the kind of procedure and method they have to follow in answering questions. Most of them are not fully familiar with the answer sheet.

This we admit. The matter, however, is more complex than this. Three other causes may be cited here to account for this somewhat peculiar and disturbing phenomenon, causes which are truly worrying especially since they are a product and an epitome of the condition of the present-day Arab culture as a whole.

— We, both individuals and institutions, have a loose conception of and adopt a loose stand towards instructions, regulations or laws. We do not apply them strictly. Often you go to a certain establishment in either the public or private sector to conduct a certain business, say to renew a license or cash a check. The directory posted outside (whenever there is one, that is) says you ought to do this and that; the person behind the counter says something different. You tell him the directory says this and that; he tells you the directory is not good and that he is the authority. Many of the lists of instructions, regulations or laws at our various institutions are like many of our road signs (say the stop sign, the speed-limit sign, etc.), more decorative than functional. They are there but no one obeys them. Imagine yourself stopping at a stop-sign. You'll look like a fool. The point here is that we are giving the person in our society (the child, the student, the citizen) double messages and mixed signals. Should we obey the stop sign or not?

The situation gets even more dangerous when we deliberately break regulations or laws. You go to a certain establishment to obtain a signature (this is a classic example), say the registrar at the university. He tells you you have to obtain the signature of your academic adviser

first and refuses to sign. The following day you meet a friend. He tells you he has obtained the signature of the same registrar you saw yesterday without having to have the document signed by the academic adviser. How come, you ask? Well, he is a friend of mine. Or, he is a nice guy, and I talked him into it.

In short, we are continually reminding ourselves that instructions, regulations or laws are not to be strictly applied, that they are tedious and fluid, that we can bargain about them, that the person in charge can break them easily, and that we ought simply to ignore them. Why are we surprised then when the person in our society does not even notice them?

— We do not read. Very few of us take the time to read short stories or novels or useful books of any sort. We do not read while waiting for the bus, while on the bus, and when we go home. If we want to find a place in Amman we do not read a map. Rather we ask others. When we want to see how something is operated, say a video cassette, we do not read the manual; rather, we ask a friend or bring the video technician. Reading is not part of our daily life, is not a habit. Why should instructions, laws or regulations be an exception?

— Our educational institutions (the family, the school and the university) train us to be reliant on others. It is much easier and much more convenient for us. Why should I look up a word in the dictionary when I can ask my friend or teacher? Why should I read about how to make spaghetti or attempt to make it when my mother can either tell me how to make it or make it for me? Why should I read the Koran or the Hadith to learn about a certain matter when I can ask my grandmother or my sheikh?

If we want individuals in our society to notice, observe, respect and value instructions, regulations and laws, we have to make them interested to read, reliant enough to read, and we have ourselves to notice, observe, respect and value our own instructions, regulations and laws. This is a crucial educational task, and a social problem of immense proportions.

Swedes vote yes to welfare state

By Simon Haydon
Reuter

STOCKHOLM — Three years ago, when a Conservative prime minister took office in Sweden, the country's famous welfare state was pronounced dead.

On Sunday, however, Swedes responded emphatically with a slap in the face to those who dared to tinker with a system that provides an all-embracing protective net.

Voters even delivered a sharp rebuke to the general election-night winners, the Social Democratic Party (SDP), depriving them of a parliamentary majority for suggesting the smallest of changes.

Despite dire pre-election warnings from industrialists and financial markets but the welfare state was costing too much, Swedes voted in their million for leftist or centre-left parties that support the system wholeheartedly.

Conservative Prime Minister Carl Bildt's centre-right coalition was trampled underfoot and an upstart right-wing party that espoused abolishing large parts of the social security blanket was blasted out of parliament completely.

The SDP was the main beneficiary of the leftwards shift in Swedish politics, picking up 24 more seats in the 349-seat parliament to give it a total of 162, 13 short of a majority.

However the most delighted people in Sweden on Sunday night were the former Communists of the Left Party and the Green Party, a motley assortment of anti-Europeans, environmentalists and supporters of financial market regulation.

The Left Party's Birgitta Sevefjord said the election result was a rejection of a campaign that concentrated on budget deficits and cut-backs.

"People felt lost but the left party raised the issues that worried people, like day care centres and schools," Sevefjord said.

The Left Party's tally of 22 seats was its best performance since the 1940s.

The Green Party, after suffering in 1991's Conservative wave, swept back into parliament with 19 seats.

"It's hard to believe," said party spokesman Birger Schlaug.

The shape of the new government has yet to emerge. The SDP would appear to be at a crossroads, wondering whether to look to the left or right for a majority in parliament.

SDP leader Ingvar Carlsson is only too aware of the havoc financial markets could wreak with his plans if he joins forces with the left and has said he would like to link up with a centrist party.

Mr. Carlsson, while proclaiming his party as the defender of Sweden's welfare state, stuck to the line that cost him his majority, saying he had been given a mandate to take even tougher measures than the ones he announced before the poll.

Goran Persson, tipped as Mr. Carlsson's finance minister, used harsh language on Sunday night in an apparent attempt to soothe the worries of international financial markets.

"We have received a mandate from voters which gives us the possibility for a tough economic policy... This shows the Swedish people are aware of the crisis," he added.

ONE YEAR PASSED
SINCE THE
"OSLO AGREEMENT"



Haiti shows big power shift on U.N. missions

By Nicholas Doughty
Reuter

LONDON — The U.S. intervention in Haiti is the latest sign that major powers, while increasingly reluctant to police the globe, are ready to defend their interests in the name of an overstretched United Nations.

Analysts and diplomats say that problems with peacekeeping missions in Somalia and Bosnia have made the most powerful states — the United States, Russia, France and Britain — wary of involvement in missions where they do not have a clear stake.

The result, as with Haiti, is that the United Nations has little choice but to hand over responsibility to those countries when and if they are prepared to act.

France, with financial and military interests in Africa dating from the colonial era, took the lead in sending troops in Rwanda earlier this year as the United Nations struggled.

While the United States handles Haiti, Russia tackles peacekeeping in former Soviet republics.

The United Nations has clearly been troubled by bad experience in Bosnia and Somalia," said Trevor Findlay, a specialist on the United Nations and peacekeeping with the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI).

"What we're seeing is that it will increasingly farm out missions to coun-

tries willing to act. The idea of a global will to deal with crises is not there," he told Reuters.

With more than a dozen peacekeeping missions around the world, the United Nations is overstretched financially and ill-equipped to react to all of the crises that have erupted since the end of the cold war.

will get involved in future peacekeeping missions following the problems in Somalia.

But critics have argued, for example, that there were far more compelling reasons for the United States and others to intervene earlier in Rwanda, where at least 500,000 people were killed in a few months of ethnic slaughter.

United Nations, Madeleine Albright, said Russian peacekeeping must follow U.N. principles but she also gave support to Moscow's role.

The major powers have faced trouble in Somalia and Bosnia because of what diplomats say are unclear U.N. mandates in confusing, and complicated situations, reflecting the difficulty in defining when to act in the post-cold war world.

When is it right to use or threaten force? Are there cases where the United Nations should intervene in a country's domestic affairs?

During the decades of East-West confrontation, these questions were rarely on the agenda, since there was always the risk that such intervention could trigger a global conflict. In any case, the U.N. was paralysed by super-power competition.

The head of the German parliament's foreign affairs committee welcomed the agreement that averted an invasion of Haiti on Monday but pointed to these wider issues for the United Nations as it approaches its 50th anniversary next year.

"What about similar events elsewhere in the world where the United States does not have such an immediate interest?" said Hans Stercken. "The question for the United Nations is whether such problems are solvable only if they occur in the immediate vicinity of the United States."

With more than a dozen peacekeeping missions around the world, the United Nations is overstretched financially and ill-equipped to react to all of the crises that have erupted since the end of the cold war.

Diplomats say this trend towards "backyard intervention" is worrying, since it raises complex moral and political questions about the mission of the United Nations in maintaining global peace and security.

"If one argues that human rights should be defended, as the Americans have done in Haiti, then they should be defended everywhere, not just when and where it suits the big boys," said one European diplomat.

The United States, which has refused to contribute troops to the U.N. operation in Bosnia, has set strict limits on how and when it

LETTERS

Appalling murder

To the Editor:

I AM appalled to read of such barbaric acts (Family Honour, Jordan Times, Sept. 19).

The girl, handicapped, lame and helpless, was a victim. A victim of a selfish young man (who deserves punishment) and a victim of improper upbringing.

The father who signed a guarantee that his daughter would not be harmed should be held responsible and be made an example to prevent such instances in the future. Limited imprisonment of girls or women to protect them is not the solution. Murder is a serious crime whatever the circumstances and should always be punishable by law with no exceptions. The brother should receive mandatory therapy and a period of detention and not praised.

Families who cannot deal with accepting their daughters in such cases should disown them and send them away from the village, not encourage their sons to commit murder. If the government wants to help girls like these, it should counsel them and relocate them to safety, not prolong their agony by jailing them until the day of their death.

Name withheld upon request.

The Jordan Times welcomes letters and contributions from its readers on any subject they wish to tackle. Letters intended for publication, however, should contain the writer's full name and preferably address as well. Names can be withheld only upon request and under special circumstances. Letters are subject to editing. The newspaper is not responsible for the return of unused manuscripts.

'Jordanian society's cultural needs are changing'

By Mohammad Mashariqa

"A slow but sure transformation is taking place in the Jordanian society in terms of relations among its members and in the drive to satisfy its cultural needs. And it is the task of the clever artist to catch the glimpse and work accordingly to ensure the success of his artistic work," according to Nabil Sawalha, who together with his mate, Hisham Yanis, has been presenting very successful political comedies to the public, like Ahlan Government, Ahlan Budget and Ahlan Salam (ahalan means welcome).

In the wake of Gulf crisis and the return of thousands of Jordanian expatriates home, some deep internal imbalances emerged in the local society, said Sawalha in an interview with the Jordan Times.

The large volume of returning expatriates was not passive in its nature but rather influential and vibrantly active economically and culturally as their majority had been used to staying out late at night and accustomed to outdoor entertainment, noted Sawalha.

An artist said Sawalha cannot offer his audience a serious cultural work against a backdrop of grim political developments but has to come up with the idea of entertaining the public on the stage by intermixing serious ideas with comedy to present the work in a palatable manner to the theatre audience.

"I believe that because we resorted to this technique our Nabil and Hisham Theatre has achieved success and it would not be an exaggeration to say that the Jordanian society has become more accustomed to this kind of entertainment nowadays," Sawalha said.

Indeed Sawalha is right since the economic and political pressures on Jordanian citizens in the last few years have been of such magnitude that it impelled them to refrain from seeking serious cultural and artistic activities and resort to comedy performances and other performances that invite laughter and amusement.

Amusement and laughter are more needed now to help people overcome their many frustrations, mounting social and economic pressures and give them a taste of a bright life.

In theatre work people are no more interested in watching performances of abstract works or ideas tackling certain political or social concepts in line with the pragmatic school of thought and only satisfying the desires of the play's director or producer.

A person who is accustomed to watching ready-made and excellently performed movies seems no

more willing to go into the trouble of tiring himself in analysing and thinking deeply about the objectives and aims of a serious play.

Artists are now turning their attention towards a change which they hope would save them the trouble of awaiting financial and material aid from the state for their work and escaping any accusation that they are failing to respond to the desires of the audience and not adapting to the needs and requirements of the situation in the Jordanian society.

The change in theatre work has been slow but it has started with two prominent theatre directors, Khaled Tarifi and Nader Omran, who in the early 1980s created the Fawanis Theatre Group and presented the public with remarkable works that eventually influenced the cultural and artistic movement in the country.

But in recent years, there was a split in the Fawanis Theatre Group with Tarifi presenting such plays as The Secret Of The Giant and The Wedding Of All Weddings, while Omran presenting other themes drawing on his works in the early 1980s like Gilgamesh, and Tibeh Rising To Heaven. While admitting that these works have been rated as highly artistic, they failed to attract interested audiences.

The failure brought about a strong reaction on the part of Omran who soon afterwards presented another dull play while Tarifi became a script writer and actor at Jordan Television.

AMMAN CULTURAL PULSE

But their absence from theatre did not last long. Both Tarifi and Omran returned to theatre work trying to reconcile their own views with the audience's needs. Tarifi soon presented a play entitled You, Not You while Omran came up with a play entitled Legal Night Entertainment.

Both attempts were aimed to appease the audience with comedies entailing criticism of the social and political situations with sarcastic scenes that soon won the audience's approval.

Tarifi's play, based on a novel by Turkish author Aziz Nassin, presents a national hero for whom people create a memorial, hold festivals to commemorate his feats and a city is named after him. When the national hero comes to the scene it is revealed that he is not a hero after all, but an ordinary person who never fought in wars and who was involved in intrigues, plots and lied about his medals.

As this fact becomes evident to the public, the mayor and the head of security fear that their



A scene from Khaled Tarifi's play You, Not You

authority is endangered because of their earlier support for the fake hero and subsequently they try to offer him cash to leave the town. They later try to deny that he has ever existed by inventing new names for him and finally by trying to threaten him with death in a drive to keep their names in the clear.

But Ghaleb (the imaginary hero), played by Khaled Tarifi himself, insists on returning to his home to inspect the tree which he loves and to die underneath it. He soon learns that his enemies have cut it down and set up a huge building in its place.

The Tarifi play was a tragedy in reality but the director succeeded in transforming it into a comedy — in terms of the characters themselves and the acts, as well as the sarcastic statements and political comments during the play which helped stimulate and amuse the audience.

Tarifi also succeeded technically and artistically in his clever utilisation of the local folklore thus presenting a vivid and lively performance.

Omran, in his part, presented another play entitled "Legal Evening Entertainment" employing television actors.

The play entails several tales in one of which the owners of a restaurant try to transform it into a theatre. There ensues a struggle between the owners and the customers. The dialogue is sarcastic, and the actors resort to popular sayings and touch on everyday life among the poor people.

In another tale both the customers and the owners get involved in discussing the Palestine question and the current peace process.

In both works of Tarifi and Omran one can feel the slow but sure transformation in the theatre work in Jordan, reflecting the transformations occurring in the society itself. The two have obviously achieved some success in trying to reconcile culture and tradition on the one hand with the public tendencies and desires on the other, winning sincere applause for their efforts.

Sarajevo's favourite food — kebabs make a comeback

By Patrick Quinn
The Associated Press

SARAJEVO — The smell of grilling meat wafts through the cobblestone streets of the old town once again, flavouring the life of Sarajevo as it did before the city was nearly destroyed by war.

"People told me, 'when you reopen your shop, we'll know life is coming back to the city,'" Sahin Memeti said, working over his charcoal grill.

Mr. Memeti is known throughout the city by his first name. Sahin's was the most popular of the traditional restaurants that gave the old town its special gastronomic tone before the war.

Tapestries depicting traditional Bosnian folk dances adorn the walls. In

a reflection of the times, one that depicts Bosnian Serb dances has been covered with a flag of Bosnia-Herzegovina.

With a long spatula and half a round of pita bread, Sahin flipped and rolled small cylinders of ground lamb, the basis of the dish called Cevapcici, over the flames. Even early in the morning, customers sat at the tables of the small shop, waiting for Cevapcici and Sahin's other specialty, Pljeskavica.

Both are made of ground lamb and spices and served in the pocket of a pita loaf, the first with chopped onion and the second with kajmak, a type of sour cream. They usually are accompanied by a glass of liquid yogurt.

For 30 years, my father and grandfather made it before me, and one day

my son will take over this shop," Sahin said. The food is so popular

in Sarajevo that Sahin said people often told him they dreamed of eating it while

the shells were falling. It has been nearly 2 1/2 years since Bosnia-

Herzegovina broke away from the Yugoslav Federation and Bosnian Serbs started a war that had left 200,000 people dead or missing.

Sarajevo's old town suffered greatly. Thousands of artillery and mortar shells gutted or damaged many of the stone and wooden buildings.

Nearly 10,000 Sarajevo residents were killed before the guns fell relatively silent earlier this year.

Sahin gets up at 6 a.m., grinds the lamb twice, shapes it and puts it away to refrigerate, then takes out the prepared meat for the day's business.

The food of the old town is so distinctive that, when conductor Zubin Mehta arrived in Sarajevo for a concert in June, after

a 20-year absence, he said he remembered one word: "Cevapcici."

"I was sending him and his crew 40 a day when they were preparing for the concert," Sahin recalled. Many ambassadors also have visited the shop, including Victor Jackovich of the United States, said to be a regular customer.

Cevapcici has a long history in the Balkans and Middle East, as well as in Bosnia. Cevap is a local word for Kebab, which has its origins in Ottoman Turkey. Cici means small.

Sahin and others point out that Pljeskavica, which means "to flatten," is of Bosnian origin.

"What counts is the tradition of the food," Sahin said. "That's what gives it its real flavour."

Recipes for Cevapcici and Pljeskavica

Recipes for two Sarajevo specialties as prepared by Sahin Memeti. Each makes about six servings.

CEVAPCICI

Two pounds (0.9 kilogrammes) ground lamb, preferably shoulder or flank

Salt and pepper to taste

Two large onions, chopped

Rounds of pita bread

Add salt and pepper to meat, shape into cylindrical strips 1 1/2 to 2 inches (3.8 to 5.1 centimetres) long, refrigerate overnight.

Cook meat on charcoal or wood grill, turning until done. Cut pita rounds in half and toast until slightly brown but still flexible.

Fill pita pockets with meat, top with chopped onion.

★ ★ ★

PLJESKAVICA

Two pounds (0.9 kilogrammes) ground lamb, pre-

ferably shoulder or flank

Salt, pepper and paprika to taste

One-quarter pound (0.1 kilogrammes) chopped onion

Garlic

Sour cream

Add salt and pepper to meat and refrigerate overnight.

Add onions, garlic and paprika. Grind mixture again, then flatten into thin patties about 6 inches (15 centimetres) in diameter and again refrigerate overnight.

Grill patties and toast halved pitas until slightly crispy.

Place meat into pita pockets, folding patties in centre. Serve with sour cream.

★ ★ ★

Both dishes are traditionally served with a glass of liquid yogurt, and may be accompanied by a mixed salad.

Singapore matchmaker turns to E-mail to play Cupid

By Abdul Jabir Hamid
Reuters

SINGAPORE — At a government matchmaking office in the heart of Singapore, a computer screen produces 10 prospective partners for a young Chinese girl.

She looks up each man's details, sends a E-mail message to the one she finds most interesting and waits for a reply.

In its latest attempt to encourage singles to date, marry early and have children, Singapore has turned to a computer-based electronic mail system described as "state of the art pen-palling."

This prosperous island state of three million, once wary of population growth, has been promoting fertility campaigns following official concern over low birth rates, especially among the educated elite.

The new dating system, dubbed Tele-Pal, is a marriage between the technology developed by Singa-

Board and the experience of its mail official matchmaker, the Social Development Unit (SDU).

Tele-Pal, implemented in June, allows singles to communicate via an interactive computer-based information service.

"For some time our main computers have been doing the matchmaking for the university graduates," SDU Director Ang Wai Hoong told Reuters in a recent interview.

"We thought we will go one step further. Why don't they themselves choose? They become their own matchmaker. So Tele-Pal comes from this thinking," she said.

Defence Minister Yeo Ning Hong initially pushed the idea. Launching his brainchild, he called it state of the art pen-palling.

The Defence Ministry has 42 per cent of all the singles in the public sector. Mr. Yeo told the Straits Times newspaper in June that might be due to the "intensity of work commitment."

The service is open to all singles in Singapore but to prevent abuse, interested parties must be approved by the SDU or its sister organisations, the Social Development Section (SDS) and the Social Promotion Section (SPS).

The SDU was set up in 1984 after then-Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew said the high number of unmarried among the better educated might affect the number of bright children being born.

The SDU is reserved for university graduates, the SDS for those who completed secondary education and the SPS for those without such qualifications.

Subscribers are initially known to each other only by personal code numbers to ensure confidentiality and avoid embarrassment.

"Members talk to one another. They don't know the other person's name, address or telephone number, but if they decide to exchange names or telephone number, it is up to them," Ms. Ang said.

"They still have the confidentiality."

Ms. Ang said the response had been overwhelming. In the first weeks some 500 people signed up although it was too early to know if there had been marriages.

"But some people rang us up to say the line has been jammed."

Ms. Ang said before applicants were accepted, their names and identification numbers would be

verified and their marital status checked.

Once approved, an applicant can access the Tele-Pal through a home computer or one of 100 public terminals in libraries, community centres and schools.

To select a suitable partner, users choose from seven criteria — race, age, height, weight, religion, citizenship and interests. The system will show a maximum of 10

matches at any one time, from which the user can select a prospective partner.

The SDU used to be ridiculed by some Singaporeans as a last resort for the "single, desperate and ugly."

But Ms. Ang said the unit, which has some 14,740 single graduate members mostly aged between 25 and 29, is a catalyst for singles to meet. Besides matchmak-

ing, it also organises dances, outings, cruises and offers marriage counselling.

"We provide a lot of opportunities for people to meet but the choice (to marry) is still theirs," she said. Some 1,543 SDU members were married in 1993 compared with 1,416 in 1992 and 614 in 1985.

Ms. Ang, 55, who married when she was 23 after a three-month courtship, said there was nothing to

wait for in those days.

"But it is different now."

Graduates want to build a career first, then get married. They want a condominium, a car. But I am saying that you can do both and build your lives together.

"Whether people want to get married is a personal choice... but when a large number of people are staying single it is a social concern."

Fad diets false path to slim figures

By Sarah Edmonds
Reuters

TORONTO — Scientists think it will take more than the fitness craze of the past few years to strip the fat off affluent Western bodies — it will take a major shift in the attitude of society.

Nearly one-third of North Americans are obese, and this high proportion has hardly changed

in the past 15 years despite the much-touted new awareness of health and fitness, said Aubie Angel, the chairman of the seventh international congress on obesity held here.

Even in Japan, where weight has rarely been a problem, fast food and couch-potato lifestyles imported from the West are starting to take their toll on the young, he said.

Fads and obsessions should give way to a focus on early education and a societal move toward a generally healthy lifestyle, Mr. Angel said.

Angel believes the recent drive for whippet-slim bodies — fuelled by the popularity of waiflike fashion models like Kate Moss — may actually contribute to obesity.

The images that stare out at people, particularly women, from magazine

racks and gymnasium floors are often impossible to duplicate and that can lead to frustration and a feeling of defeat that leads back to heavy eating.

"This idealism of being absolutely lean and taller than you actually are is part of our value system. We value that for some reason. And that is inappropriate," Mr. Angel said.

"We have got to learn to accept what our body is, what our family is and do the best we can with it and not feel lesser."

Many of the major findings at the congress show that if you are having trouble slipping into your jeans, the difficulty may be in your genes. This makes it even more important for obesity to be treated before it takes hold, scientists said.

An Arab data bank?

By Jean-Claude Elias

In parallel with Information Technology (IT) — data processing, computers — the world of communications is turning our world upside down at a frightening pace. Some maintain that communications even will have a deeper effect on us than computers.

Arguing which of IT or communications is more important or has a greater impact on the social changes is not only irrelevant but impossible as well. They are cross-linked and work in conjunction one with the other. Satellites, digital telephone centres and live TV broadcasts would not exist without computers.

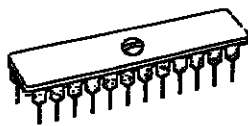
The most striking application where computers and communications work hand in hand is the data banks that users of personal computers (PC) can access from their armchair at home. These huge collections of information can be called on the phone, thanks to the modem (modulator-demodulator), a communication option that more and more PCs are fitted with these days.

In USA mainly, giant networks have been established that are accessible, through inexpensive subscriptions or on-call basis charge, to any mortal with a simple, entry-level PC. "CompuServe" is such an example, among several others.

Data banks cover virtually any topic one can think of: Science, medicine, finance, weather, statistics, and so on. The number of different networks, the variety of information they handle and the amount of data itself, all are growing every year.

Having such data available literally at your fingertip, from the PC keyboard, is an enormous and a

chip talk



precious wealth that the wide public still underestimates. For a PC User in the Middle East however, the cost of the telephone calls to the American continent is still very high and is not always justified. Modem calls through a PC can be very long sometimes, generating unpleasant phone bills at the end of the month.

A data bank having its centre in the area would serve millions of Arabs at reasonable cost. Moreover it should certainly cover certain additional types of data that American networks are not interested in. When Arab satellite TV channels already exist, why shouldn't an Arab data bank? Such a bank could also have a direct, centralised link with the American ones and provide a "U.S. Connection" to users in the Middle East at cheaper rates.

The idea is not new and that several organisations in Jordan have plans in their drawers in that regard. Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation and the Royal Scientific Society are among the ones considering such an operation. Let us hope the plans won't stay long in the drawers.

Finding words of wisdom in the book of life

By Samer Ghaleb Bagaeen

(1) The library as theatre

Forced Entertainment is a controversial Sheffield-based British theatre company. Its chosen territory is the slippery terrain where Performance meets Live Art.

General myth has it that a library is where lovers meet and where spies exchange information. There are lots of stimulating contradictions: It is full of voice yet you are supposed to be silent; a reader sits in one place yet this consciousness travels unfettered.

In its latest production *Dreams' Winter* (at Manchester Central Library, July 15-20, 1994), the company was drawn to the idea of animating the stories and secrets contained in all the books as well as conjuring the ghosts of past library users, invoking the voices of authors and characters, as well as readers. Forced Entertainment thrives on such paradoxes. Previous shows have seen them plunder images from popular culture, mixing high-and-low-tech, littering the stage with televisions, microphones, placards, neon lights and trash. Narrative does not get a look in and character has not got a role. *Dreams' Winter* aimed to deconstruct the cultural symbols around us and shed light on such themes as the crisis of personal identity and the quest for meaning in an arbitrary world.

(2) Journeys of discovery

A period of exploration in parts of our planet is becoming a new rite of passage for the young and educated elite of Western countries. But is this travelling to learn? If so, to learn what? About the countries they visit, or just themselves?

These trips are no package tours: travel itineraries are fluid, dictated only by cash concerns, practicality and whim in search of formative experience along the way to becoming self-reliant. More often, young peoples' desire to get away are not healthy; frequently, they are looking for an escapist evasion, a geographical solution to personal problems. But if one cannot find meaning in one's own society, why should one be able to find it in someone else's?

But travel can, and should be, beneficial. Even more so if travellers were giving something back in return. Travel can either further understanding or shore up prejudices.

(3) Meaningless conversation

Do you ever listen compulsively to what people say and wonder what the words mean? Pedantry is one of those arcane pursuits that seem to appeal to human nature.

"The thing about being pedantic..."

"What thing is that exactly?"

(The thing about being pedantic is that as soon as you put a foot wrong, you know that someone will come along and point out that in fact you are in error.)

"The fact of the matter is..."

"The fact of what matter?"

"Do you want anything from the buffet?"

"I would like a coffee."

"White or black?"

"I would like some milk, please." "Isn't it odd that we call white coffee 'white' when it is really brown?"

"I always say that colour is relative."

"Do you always say that?"

"Always..."

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

By Mohammad A. Shuqair

ARABIC PROVERBS EXPLAINED

* "Give me life, and throw me into the sea."
Transliteration: Aatini omr wer'mini bil-bahr.
Meaning: If one is destined to live long, no matter what happens to him, he's safe.

* "Give your dough (Lit. bread) to a baker though he may eat half of it."
Transliteration: Aati khazak lil-khabbaz wa-law akal nos-soh.
Meaning: Let experts or professionals do things for you, however, expensive they may be. In the long run, it is more advantageous.

* "Feed the mouth, and the eye becomes shy."
Transliteration: It'am et-tim tistihl-ayn.
Meaning: To bribe a judge or an official, give him a gift.

COOKING IS FUN

FISH RICE

INGREDIENTS:

8 oz. oil
1 lb. 7 oz. rice.
1 1/2 lbs. onions cut wing shape, which has been fried in oil until a golden colour.
5 oz. snobar (pine-nuts)
2 tbs. salt.
1/2 tsp. saffron
17 oz. boiling water.

METHOD

Heat oil in skillet and brown snobar. Remove snobar from oil and put onions in oil to fry until a golden colour. Lift large portion of the fried onions. Transfer the oil and remaining onions from the skillet into a cooking pot. Add rice, salt and saffron and stir well over high heat. Add boiling water and let it boil hard first, then reduce heat and cook slowly until rice is done. Serve on a platter and garnish with the fried snobar and onions.

SMILE, PLEASE

* DOCTOR: "And how are we this morning?"
PATIENT: "I'm feeling better doctor, but my breathing still troubles me."
DOCTOR: "We must see if we can put a stop to that!"

* A small boy came home after his first day at a new school and said to his mother: "The teacher asked me if I had any brothers and sisters who might be coming to school."

"That's nice of her to take such an interest in us. Did you say that you were the only child?" asked the mother.

"Yes," the boy answered. "And all she said was: 'Thank goodness.'"

* HUSBAND: "Yesterday my mother-in-law was injected and lost her life as a result."

NEIGHBOUR: "Haven't I told you that medicine is in progress."

BANK OF KNOWLEDGE

1. What does the spleen do?
2. Is a typhoon like a tornado?
3. What is the blues?
4. What is Kosher meat?
5. What is ozone?

YOUR CHARACTER IN FOCUS (Born on 7th June)

- Prudent, wise and sober.
- Capable of enormous efforts for the attainment of his object.
- Sceptical and analytical.
- Never enthusiastic and more or less gloomy.
- Lover of classical music.
- Influenced by conditions over which he has little or no control.
- All his works will be marked by strong individuality.
- Likes those who are shrewd and intelligent.
- His favourite colours are: Dark grey, dark blue, purple and green.
- His main health problems are nervousness, irritation, trouble with legs, teeth and ears, besides rheumatism.
- His good qualities are: authority, practicality, steadiness and system.

PUZZLES

FOR FILM FANS

Here is one for the film fans. Answer the nine clues with the surnames of well-known stars.

If they are correct, a famous family name of stage and screen will be revealed by reading the middle letters from top to bottom.

CLUES

1. Architectural feature
2. Concède
3. Guiding star
4. Month
5. Direction follows course
6. Nemeral letters are
7. Blossom
8. Leaves the car
9. Knife-sharpening rod

JTV CHANNEL 2 WEEKLY PREVIEW

Thursday, Sept. 22

7:30 Battlestar Galactica

8:30 Heart Of Courage

It takes someone really courageous to risk his or her life in order to save people's lives in times of danger.

9:10 Murder She Wrote

Murder According To Maggie

It was a big mistake for a television director to stop a TV programme, especially when it deals with police work.

10:00 News In English

10:20 Feature Film — Intimate Betrayal

Starring: James Brolin and Melody Anderson

Troubles begin after revealing long kept secrets between a husband and wife when a stranger comes to town.

Friday, Sept. 23

7:15 Documentary — In Spite Of All

Polish students use theatre as a means to explain how people can save the environment.

9:10 G.P.

Solomon's Choice

A woman must consider abortion, despite the doctors' and her husband's pleas against it.

10:00 News In English

10:20 Emille

10:50 Dad's Army

The home guard prepares for war, not with the Germans, but with an army of trained dogs.

Saturday, Sept. 24

7:30 Top Quality Produce From Jordan

A close look at some of Jordan's best quality agricultural produce exported via Royal Jordanian to the Gulf and to Europe.

9:30 The Campbells

On Ways And New

Dr. James lectures at Dublin University. He receives as much acclaim from university professors and as antagonism from fellow doctors.

10:00 News In English

10:20 Feature Film

How To Murder Your Wife

Starring: Jack Lemmon and Vina Lisa
A comedy about a confirmed bachelor and a woman who tricks him into marriage.

Sunday, Sept. 25

7:30 FBI: Untold Stories

Operation Lemonade

Art Lindberg was chosen in 1977 by the FBI to uncover Soviet operations carried out inside the USA by Soviet agents.

8:30 Law and Disorder

What Goes Up

Thelma defends two balloonists who accidentally

descend into private property... as a result of which a horse dies!

9:10 Quantum Leap

Piano Man

Sam is a piano player who, in 1985, was an eyewitness to a murder in Chicago.

10:00 News In English

10:20 Snowy River

Danny's fall into a deep old mine sets the whole town into forming a search team.

Monday, Sept. 26

7:30 Black Beauty

The Search

Lloyds Insurance Company continues questioning Bella Jones about the fate of the ship Estoria... a ship she remembers being on board.

8:30 Home Free

Nature Of Things

The family members vote on whether to sell their cottage in the mountain.

9:10 Galactic Odyssey

The Arvil Of Time

A look at the planets in the Milky Way... And the first pictures of the Hubble Telescope.

10:00 News In English

10:20 Matrix

Blindside

Matrix's mission is to save a famous ice hockey player from being drugged by his manager.

Tuesday, Sept. 27

7:30 Innovation

8:30 Top Cops

True police stories taken from police files and re-enacted on screen.

10:00 News In English

10:20 Come in Spinner

Mrs. Forest and Marilyn reunite with their boyfriends...

Wednesday, Sept. 28

8:30 Bob

Street Car Named Congress Douglas

Inviting friends for a poker game is one thing, but when they try to hustle the wife is quite another.

9:10 The Nature Of Things

Grizzly Bears: Losing Grounds

Man's misuse of the environment includes damaging the places where the Grizzly Bears live in making them animals threatened by extinction.

10:00 News In English

10:20 The Nanny

A Star Is Unborn

Fay forgets all about the household chores as she starts rehearsing for her role as Juliette in Shakespeare's play.

10:50 Poldark

Candy's last comedy helped by digital effects

By John Horn
The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Six months after John Candy's death, the comedian's last film is coming out — complete with scenes in which he did not originally act but now appears.

Thanks to some high-tech special effects, Candy's lead role in *Wagons East* features two sequences in which the late actor has been moved digitally from one scene to another.

Because of the tragic circumstances surrounding the film's making, no one is criticising the alterations. But the technology does raise troubling questions about the rapidly expanding realm of movie magic.

Candy died playing an old west wagonmaster in the period comedy. Filming on *Wagons East* near Durango, Mexico, was virtually finished when Candy died in his sleep on March 4 from a heart attack at age 43.

(Shortly before Candy

made *Wagons East*, he starred in Canadian Bacon. That film is scheduled for January release).

As with any film, though, several passages needed to be changed once the cameras were packed up and *Wagons East* was edited. Without Candy, director Peter Markle turned to several special effects houses and a Candy look-alike to place Candy in a handful of settings in which the actor never appeared. A similar-voiced actor rerecorded missing dialogue.

The result is a technically seamless film that Markle hopes will be remembered among Candy's best roles. Candy plays James Harlow, the drunken leader of an 1860s wagon train whose passengers are fleeing the west for more peaceful St. Louis.

"I think John would have been very impressed with his performance," Markle says. "He would have known that it was a departure, but he would

have liked the way it flowed."

The effects used in *Wagons East* are inherently controversial, as they can be used to create cinematic images that might look real but in fact are wholly concocted.

Once limited to splashy action-adventure films in which buildings exploded and warriors battled in deep space, these cinematic tricks are now working into more straightforward dramas. Gray Sinise's legs in *Forrest Gump*, for example, were "amputated" by a computer programmer. The president in *In The Line Of Fire* did not appear at a huge Denver campaign rally; he was superimposed over footage of Bill Clinton, who was there.

Earlier this year, the makers of *The Crow* used digital effects to put actor Brandon Lee's face on another actor's body after the star was killed in a movie set gun accident.

The technology allows for endless possibilities. A filmmaker (at least one

fearless of lawsuits) could conceivably use the new special effects tools to put Warren Beatty in a steamy love scene with Roseanne, place Macaulay Culkin inside a crack house or outfit animal activist Kim Basinger in a fur coat.

"I think it's going to become a major problem," says Gil Cates, dean of the School of Theatre, Film and Television at the University of California, Los Angeles. Cates does not oppose the effects in "Wagons East" but has led efforts at the Directors Guild of America against colouring films.

"It's like putting a moustache on the Mona Lisa. It's not right," Cates says, adding that filmmakers are nonetheless entranced by the technology. "The thinking is: You got it, you use it."

With Candy, Markle has done the bare minimum, using special effects only to keep the film's story on track.

"Unless you have a situation like we did, I can't see it used in any-

thing other than an action movie," Markle says.

Bob Crane, Candy's producing partner and a longtime friend, says he's bothered by the potential power of special effects, but feels they were used appropriately in *Wagons East*.

"It's like, pretty soon, they'll be able to get Arnold Schwarzenegger on a computer chip — and we'll never need him again," Crane says. "That's kind of scary. But under these circumstances, it's OK."

There are two particular

sequences in which Candy

has been moved from one

location to another.

About halfway through

the movie, the wagon

train members learn that

Candy's Harlow led the

infamous Donner party to

their snowy deaths. Publicly

shamed, the wagon-

master rides away, and is

soon back in a bar, drink-

ing into oblivion. He

promptly has a change of

heart, and pours out a

bottle of whiskey and re-

turns to rescue the wagon

train.

The footage of Candy is taken from a scene earlier in the movie, when Harlow also pours out a bottle of whiskey. The background then was a restaurant. Using several computer programmes, technicians at a post-production facility have moved Candy from the restaurant to a bar.

"Another company said it couldn't be done, but we thought it was a big challenge," says Brian Jennings, president of Todd A0 Digital, a newly formed post-production house specialising in digital effects. "It was the nightmare of computer graphics."

Near the film's end, the wagon train steers through a river. Candy, not an expert horseman, did not ride through the water. So another scene with Candy riding on the dry frontier was modified, its background of calvary and other wagons deleted. Candy was then superimposed on the water, with



John Candy

splashes added for realism.

For the dialogue in a brief scene in which Candy warns divers about a sandbar in a river, Markle used actor Tino Insana, who worked with Candy at the Second City Comedy Troupe years ago.

Jennings, who calls himself a Candy enthusiast,

says he felt awkward tinkering with Candy's performance but felt it was necessary to make the film honour his comic reputation.

"It is very disturbing — I've always been a big fan of 'SCTV' and 'Uncle Buck,'" Jennings says. "So if it makes the movie better, we're happy."

London casts a sceptical glance at Wasserstein's Sisters

By Matt Wolf
The Associated Press

LONDON — Dr. Gorgeous Teitelbaum, the middle sister in Wendy Wasserstein's Broadway hit *The Sisters Rosensweig*, has a habit of finding things "funsel."

If only the British thought the same of the play.

Sisters Rosensweig opened on Aug. 9 at southeast London's Greenwich Theatre, and response to Michael Blakemore's production has been of more than passing interest — at least to Americans.

While American dramatists from David Mamet to Arthur Miller get regular airings in Bri-

tain, Wasserstein — a favourite in her home city, New York — mostly has been ignored in Britain.

Such early off-Broadway favourites as *Isn't It Romantic* and *Uncommon Women And Others* have gone unproduced, as did her Tony- and Pulitzer Prize-winning *The Heidi Chronicles*, her breakthrough success on Broadway.

Sisters was considered a risky bet for the commercial West End, even though it is situated in London.

Set on the weekend of the attempted Soviet putsch in 1991, the play tells the bittersweet story of three sisters — not totally unlike Anton Chekhov's — who con-

verge in West London's Tony Holland Park for eldest sister Sara's 54th birthday.

A high-powered banker, Sara (Janet Suzman) is the dynamo of the trio, although her success has exacted a price. Divorced with a teenage daughter, she keeps a firm clamp on her emotions — in keeping with her British residence.

At one recent performance, the London audience applauded her assertion that she loves living in a country "where one's feelings are openly repressed."

Sara's stiff upper lip is in direct contrast to the visiting gorgeous (Maureen Lipman), a Massachusetts radio personal-

ity who lives for comfort and clothes, and conceals an unhappy marriage.

Youngest sister Pfeni (Lynda Bellingham) is having an affair with a bisexual British theatre director (Brian Protheroe), who has bought three homes on the strength of a hit Broadway musical of *The Scarlet Pimpernel* — and is unhappy in all of them. The *Scarlet Pimpernel* — and is unhappy in all of them.

The play is a comedy with an underlying ache, a slice of sad but also resilient lives.

Try telling that to the English, who like their sorrow larger, their off-stage revolutions — in this case Russian — more edgily aimed centre stage.

The Independent On Sunday's Irving Wardle called the play "dire," while John Peter in the London Times on London derided its "lovably and relentlessly Jewish... feel-good theatre."

In interviews after the opening, producer Michael Codron and his playwright sounded puzzled by the press.

"It's very poor, isn't it? Unfairly so," Codron said in an interview. "They've been very unkind to Wendy.... I'm bewildered by the reception; the phrase 'Broadway hit' is clearly anathema here."

Wasserstein, 43, said the reaction gave her a vivid sense of how divided Britain and the United States are.

"Always in England you think of the language as the same, that you have more in common than not," said Wasserstein, who wrote *The Heidi Chronicles* while in London a decade ago on a fellowship from the British American Arts Association.

This time, she said, "I finally thought, this is actually a foreign country but I understand the language. The seriousness of the play became very clear to me in England, which was interesting because I think it was very much received as a comedy."

The Greenwich engagement prompted textual changes. A reference to the Irish Republican Army was changed to the

less threatening Welsh Nationalist Party.

Pfeni's exit line, "I'm a wandering Jew, I'll see you soon," was cut so as to play down the Jewishness of a show in a city which has a far smaller Jewish community than New York.

A remark about Scarsdale — which got laughs of recognition in New York and silent incomprehension here — was changed during previews to Brooklyn and Boston and then back again.

"I just thought, it is what it is," said Wasserstein, citing by way of comparison a lyric from the musical *Guys And Dolls* about "a Scarsdale Galahad."

"I thought, if they can

keep in Scarsdale, I can."

The Greenwich run had some unscripted drama. An early preview was disrupted when two men were sighted on the roof on a night when the Israeli ambassador was expected in the audience, and the theatre was evacuated.

But in best show-must-go tradition, the actors shifted the production — if not the set — to nearby Greenwich Park and did the first 20 minutes or so of the play before a rapt audience until the theatre was reopened.

The limited run through Sept. 10 is mostly sold out in the 423-seat theatre, but Codron said he was as yet unsure whether to risk a commercial transfer.

Bunjaku Yoshida, puppet master but still student

By Masao Iijima
Reiter

OSAKA, Japan — Clad in a sombre black robe and looking more like a Buddhist monk than an artist, 66-year-old Bunjaku Yoshida, one of Japan's leading Bunraku puppeteers, still considers himself a student.

"There is no perfection in art," he says. "An artist is a student always in the process of trying to reach perfection. He himself cannot evaluate his work. Evaluation is only possible when he dies and people remember his work."

Bunraku, a sophisticated form of puppetry originating in the Kansai region of western Japan in the 16th century, brings together the arts of puppetry, music and song.

Like traditional Japanese Kabuki theatre, performances are restricted to men. Each of the one metre high puppets, dressed in a colourful, hand-sewn miniature kimono, is coaxed into life by three puppeteers who move not just head and limbs but mouth, eyes and eyebrows too.

The Taiyu, or bal-

adeer, sitting at the edge of the stage, is the puppet's voice. He is accompanied by the shamisen, a banjo-like instrument made of cat skin stretched over a wooden frame which illustrates the mood of each line or scene.

Bunraku plays were written in the Kansai dialect and are said to reflect the special mentality of the region.

"The Kansai and Kanto (Tokyo area) mentalities differ greatly," says Bunjaku. "Kansai culture was oppressed by the Tokugawa shoguns after they moved the capital to Edo

(Tokyo) from Kyoto in 1603.

"No longer at the centre, the people of Kansai had to become frugal and realistic and accept their fate. Kanto culture on the other hand blossomed in the new capital. The people of Edo set store in looking good, no matter what the cost. That's why fireworks were so popular there."

He added: "Edo Kabuki themes are characterised by rough, Samurai battles but Kansai plays, both Bunraku and Kabuki, were based on humanistic themes such as

suicides for love."

One of only 88 Bunraku puppeteers in Japan today, Bunjaku was born into a family steeped in the traditional arts of Kansai.

Though he frequented performances and dressing rooms from childhood, he was 17 before becoming an apprentice, a latecomer in an age when boys were generally apprenticed after elementary school.

"But I was on stage even before I formally became an apprentice," Bunjaku recalls. "When I started, it was during the

war. There were only 20 or so puppeteers who hadn't gone to the battlefield. They needed every person they could possibly get and so sometimes I was asked to help."

Neither the expressions nor the gestures of the puppets of the classical plays were ever recorded, so the lore has been passed down by oral tradition from master to apprentice.

The Bunraku apprenticeship starts his training by opening and closing the stage curtains, observing the masters and graduating to the more difficult

task of manipulating the limbs of the puppet.

"Your body must learn the motions of the puppet, not your mind. The puppet's movements must come as naturally as your own," says Bunjaku.

In the 1950s, with the arrival of the television set, all Japan's traditional performing arts hit hard times and private theatres gave up supporting Bunraku.

In 1966, with completion of the National Theatre of Japan, the ancient art won breathing space. And in 1984, the National Bunraku Theatre

opened in Osaka, providing not only a stage but also a school for future puppeteers.

"Bunraku is neither as extravagant nor financially satisfying as Kabuki," he says.

"But the exhilaration when the three puppeteers handling the puppet unite with the Taiyu and the Shamisen music to produce this character is satisfaction beyond expression."

"But such performances are rare and we, as artists, keep striving for that feeling. It is what we live for."

2 Harold Prince productions endure just princely

By Michel Kuchwara
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Kiss Of The Spider Woman still spins the most theatrical web on Broadway, while *The Phantom Of The Opera* deviously maintains its status as one of this town's toughest tickets.

What if these two exceptional musicals live in common?

Both were brought to life by the same remarkable director, Harold Prince. Recent revisits to both shows reconfirm Prince's status as the American musical theatre's most accomplished director. Despite major cast changes, including pivotal leading roles, *Spider Woman* and *Phantom* continue to de-

liver theatre magic, much of it due to Prince's imaginative work.

Consider *Spider Woman*, a musical that nearly died after a disastrous and very public workshop production four years ago. Prince directed that version but then rethought and recast it at the instigation of Canadian producer Garth Drabinsky.

Now attention has refocused on the show — and not just because it has a new weekend ticket price of \$70, the highest on Broadway until *Show Boat* and *Sunset Boulevard* arrive in the fall. The hoopla centres on the production's new spider woman, pop recording star Vanessa Williams who has replaced the in-

destructible Chita Rivera.

Williams doesn't have the razor-edged precision of Rivera's extraordinary dancing, but she has the potent vocal equipment to handle the demanding score by John Kander and Fred Ebb. When she relaxes — and it took almost the entire long first act for her to do so — Williams is just fine.

The performer possesses a languid beauty, an almost old-time movie-star haughtiness that emanated effortlessly from the best of the legendary screen ladies.

Williams gets ample support from her two co-stars, Howard McGillin as Molina, the homosexual window dresser who conjures up her presence for his cellmate (Brian Mitchell) in a Latin

American jail. McGillin can't compete with the memory of the extraordinary Brent Carver who, as Molina, gave one of those incandescent performances that refuse to grow dim with the passage of time.

Yet McGillin has a powerful singing voice that gets across much of the role's emotional intensity — something his acting alone doesn't quite convey. Mitchell has a gravelly, gruff manner perfectly suited to his role as the defiant revolutionary. He displays a grittiness that escaped his predecessor in the role, a strength that makes his eventual admiration and affection for Molina all the more compelling.

terrence McNally's

adaptation of the Manuel Puig novel remains a model of economical musical theatre story-telling. Jerome Sirlin's prison-cell setting, using an astute array of projections, and Howell Binkley's lighting make important contributions to the show's fluid, almost cinematic theatricality.

Prince conjures up that theatricality with the greatest of ease. The action switches effortlessly from a claustrophobic cell to the rest of the prison and to the world outside.

The same sense of high theatrics can be found in *The Phantom Of The Opera*, which has been playing at the Majestic Theatre since January 1988. After all that time, *Phantom* is a deliciously extravagant experience,

deliberately grandiose in its opulent opera house designs by Maria Bjornson. It's a giant fun house of a show that raises dramatic Hokum to effective popular entertainment, if not high art, and Prince is a master manipulator of the thrills and an occasional chill. Yes, the falling chandelier still manages to evoke a few screams from unsuspecting audience members.

Like *Spider Woman*, *Phantom* has a new performer playing the title character. Davis Gaines is not new to the role, having starred in the Los Angeles Company for quite a while. Gaines could be the sexiest, most vocally assured *Phantom* yet, primarily because he does not let the creature become an object of self-

pity. He's a strong actor, too, forceful in his scenes with Tracy Shayne, who plays Christine, the object of the Phantom's obsessive love.

Shayne has a harder time, trying to overcome a blandly written role that, nonetheless, has some of the show's most difficult music. She doesn't always succeed, often tending to be overwhelmed by the story and those massive sets.

The other members of the supporting cast battle effectively against all the gilt and excess, particularly Leila Martin who has played the Paris Opera's fearful ballet mistress in the musical since it opened more than six years ago.

Spider Woman and *Phantom* will be joined by other Prince shows, on and off-Broadway during the upcoming season.

Call it a mini-Prince festival, if you will, which will expand in October with the arrival of *Show Boat*. Prince's reworking of the Jerome Kern-Oscar Hammerstein II classic that has been running in Toronto for about a year.

And then the director will go off-Broadway in December to the Joseph Papp Public Theatre for a new musical, *The Petrified Prince*, based on a screenplay by Ingmar Bergman. The music and lyrics are by Michael John Lachiusa who scored at Lincoln Centre last season with the musical *Hello Again*.

Practising American-style medicine on the Clyde

By Randi Hutter Epstein
The Associated Press

CLYDEBANK, Scotland — To the thousands of foreigners who visit Scotland for golf, castles and whisky, some expatriate Americans hope to add the affluent ill.

In June, surgeons Raphael Levey and Angelo Eraklis, formerly of Harvard, opened Health Care International (HCI), a 260-bed, \$270 million private hospital and luxury hotel on the outskirts of Glasgow.

Their dream is a global hub for medical care that offers the latest technology and first-rate physicians at lower prices than in the United States. Harvard Medical School is considering whether to lend its prestige to the venture in return for a share of the profits.

Dr. Levey and Dr. Eraklis are in the vanguard of a growing trend in American health care to look abroad for opportunity.

Labour is cheaper in Europe, and Americans

have a competitive edge in some high-tech equipment and expertise. In Britain, most National Health Service hospitals buy services from private institutions, including Health Care International, because they cannot afford state-of-the-art technology.

At first, HCI lured patients from the Middle East, Asia and North Africa. Now it seeks deals with American health insurers, offering packages that include round-trip air transportation, golf at Gleneagles and shopping sprees in London or Paris for accompanying family members.

HCI sells its services through branch offices in Cairo, Athens, Milan, London and Boston. L. James Wiczai, the chief executive, said HCI had treated about 400 patients so far, most of them from outside Britain.

On a recent press tour of the hospital, reporters saw many empty rooms and just one patient, a 15-year-old girl from Abu Dhabi.

Some critics say Glasgow is the wrong location for a hospital that seeks

wealthy patients.

"The place is doomed to fail," said Dr. Karol Sikora, chief of clinical oncology at Hammersmith Hospital in West London. "That kind of client wants to be close to Harrods," the famous London department store.

Hammersmith also is in the international market, but Dr. Sikora said foreign-born doctors prefer Cromwell, a private hospital in central London.

HCI has caused controversy in Glasgow by selling services to the National Health Service, Britain's free-to-all medical system.

Under new market-oriented policies, government hospitals may buy services from private hospitals instead of purchasing their own costly equipment and hiring specialised staff. The Scots, who cherish their health system, would rather the government modernise the existing hospitals.

Dr. Eraklis and his American physicians like themselves to Peace Corps doctors dispensing U.S. expertise on foreign ter-

rain. That sort of talk rankles the Scots, who see the Americans as merely out to make money.

According to Dr. Eraklis, the slow start was expected and prophecies of doom are the product of jealousy.

"American doctors at this moment are in deep trouble," he said. "They are a very unhappy lot. They all wish they had thought of it first."

The prospect of U.S. reforms that could mean less revenue for hospitals and lower pay for doctors is prompting American providers to look abroad just as several European countries, particularly Britain, warm to private care.

British patients, tired of waiting months or years for treatment, are increasingly willing to pay for private services.

"I think we are going into the superregionalisation of health care, in that some diseases require expensive high technology and highly trained people that cannot be in every hamlet," Dr. Eraklis said.

"It takes a large population to justify the kind of

investment and expertise at the cutting edge, and that's the niche HCI is programmed to fill."

HCI can beat American prices because labour, which accounts for 70 per cent of hospital costs, is about one-third cheaper in Europe. But doctors at HCI earn at least as much as in the United States, starting at about \$300,000 a year plus bonuses.

Other U.S. hospital owners and universities also are looking abroad. Salick Health Care, which has a chain of cancer centres in the United States, has discussed deals with the National Health Service and American Medical Holdings, owner of 35 hospitals, wants to buy back foreign centres it sold in the 1980s.

"If the U.S. goes to more socialised medicine, as we anticipate, we think we'll see many of our doctors willing to go overseas and earn as much or more in a six-month stint," said Mike Skinner, director of development at Mid-America Healthcare Group. The Dallas company owns three U.S. hospitals and is considering

overseas expansion.

HCI was conceived in August 1979 while Dr. Eraklis and Dr. Levey, friends since student days at Harvard Medical School, were bemoaning the future of American medicine. They foresaw increasing bureaucracy, government intrusion, and more priority for cost over quality.

"One night when we were grilling our T-bone steaks, we said wouldn't it be great to build a hospital not encumbered by all these economic and political distortions, and do it as a service to people?" Dr. Eraklis said.

They wanted an English-speaking country and considered Ireland first, but Scottish agencies lured them with \$42.5 million toward building the hospital and hotel, plus 47 acres (19 hectares) near the Glasgow Airport.

Friends at Harvard also helped out. Harvard Management Company, which controls the university's endowment, owns 21.5 per cent of HCI with an investment of \$11.3 million. Mont-

gomery Medical Ventures, founded by a former Harvard physician, owns 26 per cent. Dr. Eraklis and Dr. Levey together hold 11 per cent. And several investors account for the rest.

Besides the two founders, HCI employs several doctors from Harvard. The former chief of radiology there runs HCI's Radiology Department.

Dr. Eraklis and Dr. Levey would like their hospital to become a Harvard affiliate. That would allow it to use Harvard's name to attract patients, and Harvard to share in the business.

Daniel Tosteson, dean of Harvard Medical School, was "impressed and seriously considering" an arrangement after a visit in June, said Associate Dean Suzanne Raufenbart.

Meanwhile, HCI has a way to go to fill empty beds and make friends in the neighbourhood.

Newspapers have printed several hostile articles, accusing it of undermining the National Health Service by stealing

staff from Glasgow hospitals and using their blood supplies.

Mr. Wiczai, the chief executive, said HCI had been careful not to take too many doctors and nurses away from any one hospital and was buying blood from the Scottish Blood Transfusion Service.

Many Glaswegians are angry at their government for giving money to an American venture when their own hospitals need fixing.

"I foresee it as a Trojan horse for the NHS (National Health Service)," said Sam Galbraith, a Labour Party legislator from the Clydebank area.

Mr. Wiczai blames much of the trouble on politics.

"People here are very committed to the National Health Service, and because of that (HCI) is a convenient political football.... The local people are always sniping about the Tories (Britain's governing Conservative Party) and we frequently get dragged into the war."

Study: Good warmup cuts exercise-induced asthma

By Ira Dreyfuss
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A good warmup can reduce or eliminate exercise-induced asthma in some people, a study suggests.

The finding may make it easier for asthmatics to do aerobic exercise such as running, researchers say.

Asthmatics suffer attacks of shortness of breath or breathlessness, generally accompanied by wheezing, because the small airways in their lungs narrow. About one person in 20 has asthma.

The aerobic demands of vigorous exercise can bring on one of these attacks. In fact, an exercise test to see if the air-

ways constrict is one way to tell if a person is asthmatic, according to the Oxford Textbook of Sports Medicine.

However, the new study indicates that a warmup can fight this bronchoconstriction after exercise. The report is in the American College of Sports Medicine's journal, *Medicine and Science in Sports and Exercise*.

The report looked at nine women and three men, all averaging about 27 years of age, and all moderately trained athletes. All also had moderately severe asthma, said Dr. Donald C. McKenzie, professor of medicine at the University of British Columbia.

Prof. McKenzie and his colleagues at the Vancouver school gave each subject six-minute treadmill runs without warmups, to see how efficiently they used oxygen.

The 12 also were given two types of warmups: Interval warmups, in which they did eight 30-second all-out treadmill runs, with 90 seconds of rest between the runs; and a continuous 15-minute treadmill run at a velocity equal to 60 per cent of their aerobic maximum.

After each warmup, the athletes were given new exercise tests, and those values were compared with the results of the tests they took without warmups.

The intervals didn't seem to make much difference, but the continuous warmups seemed to help a lot, Prof. McKenzie said.

With a continuous warmup, all 12 decreased their asthmatic responses in three measures of lung function, and six decreased so much they failed to even meet the standard for an attack of exercise-induced asthma, Prof. McKenzie said.

"This suggests that, in some individuals with exercise-induced asthma, 15 minutes of a continuous, moderate intensity warmup prior to more strenuous exercise will significantly decrease or prevent post-exercise bronchoconstriction."

the journal article said.

The finding fits earlier suggestions that higher fitness levels could have protective effect against exercise-induced asthma, Prof. McKenzie said.

Although Prof. McKenzie's study did not look for a cause, he suspects continuous warmup makes the body slowly use up the

triggers that set off asthma attacks.

And it's possible that similar effects could be found with shorter but continuous warmups, Prof. McKenzie said. An Australian study found no benefit from a three-minute warmup, but Prof. McKenzie thinks the trend might show up later — at

perhaps, five or 10 minutes — and grow stronger with time.

Another researcher notes that 60 per cent of a person's aerobic maximum is in itself enough to raise a sweat. It's "a pretty good steady state jog," said Dr. Willem H. Meeuwisse, an assistant professor and physician at

the Sports Medicine Centre in the University of Calgary, Alberta.

However, the study indicates that some athletes might be able to use the continuous warmup technique as a way to avoid the need to take medication for exercise-induced asthma, Dr. Meeuwisse said.

Heart institute offers high-tech medicine in Vietnam

By Hoang Dinh Nam
Agence France Presse

HO CHI MINH CITY, Vietnam — One of Asia's most modern centres for heart surgery stands proudly in one of the poorest countries on earth, thanks to a top French cardiologist working in the former colony.

Before setting up the Heart Institute here two years ago, leading French cardiologist Dr. Alain Carpentier, who lent his name to a top medical foundation, did not want to come and work in Vietnam, despite repeated requests.

"At the time, Vietnam had more pressing worries than heart surgery. The economic situation made it an unrealistic prospect in such a country," he told AFP in an interview.

"In the West it is often thought that some types of medicine are not suitable for certain countries," the professor explained.

Today he has changed his mind, calling the idea a "misconception of medicine and medical cooperation."

The sprawling 10,000 square metre (108,000 square foot) Heart Institute near the centre of the city better known as Saigon, is built on the site of former French and later American military barracks.

The two-storey buildings topped by red-tile roofs, built by the municipal government are surrounded by gardens and are new and clean — quite unlike ordinary Vietnamese hospitals.

The institute was supplied with the most sophisticated equipment by the Carpentier Foundation and boasts operating techniques perfected by Dr. Carpentier over three decades at the Broussais Hospital in Paris, including heart surgery using external circulatory apparatus.

The aim of the institute

is to provide to the country's poorest patients — especially children born with congenital heart defects — with the best possible surgical services.

This new lease on life for many youngsters has been made possible through donations from the French-based Carpentier Foundation.

Open-heart surgery at the institute costs \$1,450, but the same operation would set patients back ten times that much in nearby Thailand which is far more prosperous, institute officials said.

Forty-four per cent of patients get partial or total subsidies for surgery depending on their income, which hardly amounts to anything in a country where the annual per-capita income stands at \$220.

Such cheap rates — the lowest in the world — are possible because breaking even financially is not the institute's priority.

In addition, Vietnamese medical personnel accept low salaries — equivalent to between \$50 and \$100 a month — and the institute has been granted a unique independent status, reducing administrative costs.

"Without this status, nothing would be possible," Dr. Carpentier said. The institute, which has 160 employees 10 of whom are French has operated on 1,700 patients, mostly children, since January 1992. Nearly three-quarters of the patients underwent open-heart surgery.

"The results are far better than I expected, both in terms of quantity and quality," Dr. Carpentier said.

With a failure rate of 3.5 per cent, the institute's performance is comparable to that of other heart centres in the developed world, he said.

The cardiologist, who wants to promote a medical tradition that links Viet-

nam with its former colonial ruler, regularly visits the institute, where he sits on a supervisory board with five French and five Vietnamese members.

"Medicine is above the trials of history," he said, citing a belief that "in one life, one cannot make more than one or two contributions like this."

ANSWERS

BANK OF KNOWLEDGE

1. It purifies blood, and it also manufactures some of the blood cells for the body. Despite these valuable jobs, it is quite possible to live without a spleen.
2. Yes. It is a whirlwind of considerable violence which blows in the China Seas and near the Philippines Islands in the summer and autumn.

3. It is a type of song which developed from the work songs and spirituals sung by the African slaves taken to the United States, and became the basis of American jazz. Although, as the name would suggest, blues songs are often melancholic, they can also be joyful and exuberant.

4. It is meat used as food from an animal killed in accordance with the Jewish law.

5. It is a kind of oxygen which has a pungent smell, and is used for purifying air or sterilising water.

PUZZLES & TEASERS

"FOR FILM FANS"

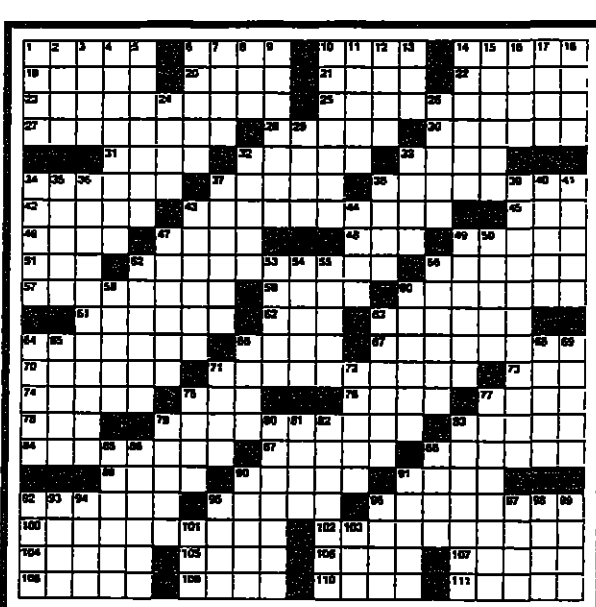
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| 8. PA | (R) | KS |
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The famous name is BARRYMORE

WEEKEND CROSSWORD

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Last Week's Cryptograms

1. Smiling bank officer okay twenty dollar mortgage for young kid to build a new tree hut in his backyard.
2. Chubby old farmer, affected by summer doldrums, finds relief under shade tree.
3. Funny surgeon puts many of his emergency patients in stitches, and a lot die laughing.
4. Most party glowworms work hard at their nightly lark in dark park.

1. WETTQ AWMBJESC ED KIVVSH AEVT
BMDSC DU QUICP AUCSSUB
DSBMCPC KAERQ JUP KDMNKE.

—By Earl Ireland

2. AZYNIX QINXY AVEWUXNG OVEN OWN
MBX VXY RVVTTNXLNG ZBO ZM
QVEUXL U XNNY OZ EXNVT.

—By Barbara J. Rogg

3. STGR VERIMHZKTIAXE MEXW
VHGMENVMGZ T INSEX LH MNHZA
XOXG AX VBNEWGM LHOX BM.

—By Sol Tanenker

4. LRG MY LI HYOTMIE AIWNEUTH
STUF TO WRITE FWG NF SIO SNAF.

—By Ed Huddleston

SOLUTIONS OF LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE

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Majali, Kaddoumi review ties

(Continued from page 1)

them in coordination with us."

Jordan last week insisted it would continue its historic role in caring for the holy sites in Jerusalem while the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) demanded the Kingdom transfer responsibility of Muslim Waqf in Jerusalem to the newly-established Palestinian Waqf ministry.

The PLO had earlier reacted angrily to a clause in the Washington Declaration which recognised a special role for the Kingdom in the holy sites in Jerusalem and its historic religious sovereignty over them.

Jordanian officials said that Jordan had been responsible for the sites for decades and the Arab summit of Rabat in 1974, which recognised the PLO as the sole legitimate

representative of the Palestinian people, left the custodianship of the holy sites with Jordan.

They also note the PLO asked Jordan to maintain its responsibility for them when the Kingdom severed administrative and legal links with the West Bank in 1988.

The Kingdom says its religious sovereignty over the holy sites in Jerusalem does not conflict with the Palestinian political sovereignty over Jerusalem which the Kingdom supports.

The Kingdom spends \$9 million a year in providing for the maintenance and upkeep of Islamic sites in Jerusalem.

While in Amman, Mr. Kaddoumi said the PLO supports a Libyan call to hold an Arab summit to end differences that developed among Arab states since the eruption of the Gulf crisis in August 1990.

Crown Prince meets Netanyahu

(Continued from page 1)

Netanyahu.

The Likud leader described the London meeting as "a sign of the times" and said his party was committed to making peace "with any Arab country" that "sincerely" wants to make peace.

Mr. Netanyahu also said that the meeting had no bearing on the Jordanian-Israeli negotiations. "That we leave it to the governments," he said.

Meanwhile, reports from Israel said that for the first

time Crown Prince Hassan flew over Israel on his way to London on Tuesday. It was not immediately clear whether the Crown Prince was at the controls of the plane.

King Hussein, piloting his private plane, made an unprecedented flight over Jerusalem on Aug. 3, a week after he signed the Washington Declaration with Mr. Rabin.

Jordan and Israel are negotiating commercial overflights but have not reached agreement.

U.S. steps up Haiti pressure

(Continued from page 1)

going to increase the patrols. We're going to make very clear to Gen. Cedras that we can't see the kind of repetition of the situation that we saw yesterday."

The U.S.-Haiti agreement, worked out by a delegation headed by former U.S. President Jimmy Carter, requires military leaders to step down by Oct. 15 and allow the restoration of Mr. Jean-Bertrand Aristide.

Mr. Aristide, Haiti's first democratically elected president, was ousted by Gen. Cedras and his cohorts in a Sept. 1991 coup.

Gen. Shelton said one problem that does not bode well for efforts to quell the violence could be that Gen. Cedras does not have firm enough control over police or militiamen. "Many of them can be classified only as thugs," he said.

U.S. troops landed in Port-au-Prince on Monday, and about 1,800 Marines landed Tuesday at Haiti's second city, Cap-Haitien, in the north. Once their equipment is ashore, they are to begin fanning out into the countryside.

The potential for violence remains high in this wretchedly poor Caribbean nation as the intervention force gets organised and the ruling military and police desperately try to assure their own futures.

At the United Nations, the

U.S. ambassador said the Security Council won't lift a trade embargo against Haiti until Mr. Aristide returns to power.

Sanctions were imposed after the army overthrew Mr. Aristide. Stricter embargos and bans on travel and financial transactions have been imposed in the attempt to compel the military to restore him to power.

Ambassador Madeleine K. Albright had said Monday the oil embargo and other sanctions could be suspended if Haiti's military rulers cooperated with the multinational force.

But on Tuesday night, after U.S. officials met with Mr. Aristide and Security Council members, Ms. Albright said, "what we have decided to do for now is not to ask for a suspension of sanctions."

As the U.S. force prepares to spread out beyond Port-au-Prince and Cap-Haitien, both sides in Haiti appear to be testing their new status. Aristide supporters are feeling out how far they can press their anti-military demonstrations, while police appear to be measuring how Americans will respond if they get rough.

But in general, most people appear ready to give the latest plan to bring democracy to Haiti a chance. Even Franck Pierre, leader of the violent, pro-army political group Capois La Mort, sounded conciliatory.

Efforts for Sharaa-Peres meeting

(Continued from page 1)

comprehensive peace, and we are working towards it."

"What we are seeing is an effort to create a more positive atmosphere... to emphasise within Syria itself that peace is what the future should be. This is what is being conveyed to the Syrian population," Mr. Ross said.

The slogans are also being interpreted here as a rare display of sensitivity by Mr. Assad to Israeli public opinion.

Mr. Rabin has said he detected a shift in Mr. Assad's stance in favour of peace. He offered Syria a "marginal" withdrawal from the Golan over three years to allow for normalisation while the full extent of the pullout is negotiated.

But he pinpointed four obstacles — the scale of the Israeli withdrawal from the Golan Heights, the timetable of the withdrawal, the link between the withdrawal and normalisation of ties, and security arrangements.

Israel has started preparations to hold a referendum within six months if agreement is reached on a substantial withdrawal, the Dava daily reported.

Labour Party General Secretary Nissim Zivli told a politburo meeting on Monday that a parliamentary bill

was being drawn up for what will be Israel's first referendum in line with Mr. Rabin's pledge to consult the people before any major pullout.

The wording, to include reference to withdrawal phases, normalisation and security arrangements, would present the agreement as a "package deal" on which Israelis should vote "yes" or "no."

Meanwhile official Syrian newspapers charged that Israel was looking for an excuse to avoid a full withdrawal by stirring a domestic rumour.

Fifteen Golan settlers are spearheading protests with a hunger strike claiming Mr. Rabin is ready for a total pullout.

Mr. Ross went on the Gaza City to meet Palestine Liberation Organisation Chairman Yasser Arafat in the evening.

He returns to Washington on Thursday.

On Monday, Mr. Rabin won approval from his uneasy Labour Party to continue the contacts and reiterated his pledge to submit a land-for-peace deal with Syria to a referendum. The party rejected a motion that would have required a special 65 per cent majority in the plebiscite.

Yeltsin: a detached president enjoying temporary quiet

By Sergei Shargorodsky
The Associated Press

MOSCOW — When Boris Yeltsin travels to Washington next week, he is going as a different man and as leader of a changed Russia.

He's no longer the beaming statesman who met with President Bush in 1992, seven months after orchestrating the collapse of the Soviet Union and launching Russia's free-market drive.

But he also isn't the worried president of the 1993 summits, at odds with a hard-line parliament.

Nor is he the bruised bear who greeted President Clinton last January after sending tanks and troops to crush his militant parliamentary foes.

At their Sept. 27-28 summit, Mr. Clinton will find a reserved, detached Yeltsin, enjoying some of the quietest months of his presidency but wary of his country's undercurrents.

Reflecting his changed circumstances, Mr. Yeltsin is not going to this summit with his hand out for U.S. aid. Both sides say the talks will focus on trade and investment opportunities and world politics.

A new national charter has given Mr. Yeltsin wide powers. A new bicameral and more efficient parliament is in office. Russia's 80 or so provinces have signed a federation treaty, cementing the vast country that threatened to disperse.

Russian troops are back from Germany and the Baltics, but Mr. Yeltsin's government is pursuing an assertive foreign policy to restore Russia's influence in the post-Soviet world.

Parting with several often annoying "young turks" like free-market champions Yegor Gaidar and Boris Fyodorov, Mr. Yeltsin's government is more centrist in its statements and deeds and more acceptable to the majority of Russians.

But it has stayed the course of economic reform, managing to slow runaway inflation, attract some foreign investment and put about 70 per cent of industrial potential in private hands.

Most important for Mr. Yeltsin, the leaders of Russian regions, political parties and public groups, excluding the most radical opposition, have lived up to a fact pledging to avoid political violence.

"Our main accomplishment is that civic peace has become a real fact of our life, reflecting a radical change in the general political climate in the country," a presidential spokesman, Anatoly Krasikov, said.

"Even those parties and groups that refused to sign the agreement have been actually adhering to the same rules of the game, forced to do so by the overall political climate," Mr. Krasikov said in an interview with the Associated Press.

That tranquil climate, however, may change this fall. Opposition groups ranging from ultranationalists to Communists plan a



Boris Yeltsin

campaign of demonstrations and strikes against Mr. Yeltsin's government. They are demanding that Mr. Yeltsin, whose term runs to July 1996, hold early presidential elections.

"There will be a political struggle" and aggravation of social tensions in some regions, Economics Minister Alexander Shokhin said recently.

The president's top aide, Vyacheslav Kostikov, forecast a "brawny" political season but said "the extremists will fail to provoke

a fire in the country."

Opposition rallies have drawn several thousand people at best in recent months. But the opposition can point to its own gains.

Although the new parliament has a much better relationship with Mr. Yeltsin than its rebel predecessor, the lower house is dominated by nationalists and conservative-minded lawmakers who have tried to slow privatisation of the economy. They also granted amnesty to Mr. Yeltsin's enemies.

Political observers note that Mr. Yeltsin, whose activity runs in cycles, is going through a period of detachment, rarely appearing in public and dealing with the country through decrees drafted at his office or country home.

However, during one widely publicised recent appearance at a farewell ceremony for Russian troops in Germany, a red-faced Yeltsin blew kisses to the crowd, led a German band and sang boisterously.

Izvestia said many Russians were uneasy and even ashamed of their leader's behaviour, and the opposition accused him of being drunk.

Apartheid dead but S. African protests still rage

By Anton Ferreira
Reuters

JOHANNESBURG — President Nelson Mandela's African National Congress (ANC), long accustomed to leading protests against former white rulers, is now struggling to deal with protests against itself.

A sense of déjà vu gripped South Africans last week as smoke billowed from burning barricades and public buildings in tense townships and police opened fire with birdshot to disperse violent demonstrators.

In mixed-race "coloured" areas around Johannesburg, residents were demanding the same concessions on rates and taxes that have been extended to

blacks.

The demonstrations were the latest in a series of protests on a variety of issues that have included a truck blockade of major arteries, forced expulsion of headmasters from black schools and the taking of government officials as hostages.

"There's myriad issues that are making people frustrated and upset," said Wim Booysse, policy analyst at the Northern Transvaal Chamber of Industries.

"The problem is that the ANC has a majority in parliament but they don't have real power yet — they don't have control at local level."

"People on the ground are angry because they're still being treated as

second-class citizens. It's a breeding ground for extremism."

The Star, one of South Africa's most widely read newspapers, said in an editorial that a culture of ungovernability was becoming the order of the day.

"It is becoming a pattern which left unchecked might spread throughout the country and turn ours into a society of anarchists," it said.

"The government should take the lead in telling the masses that the new times we live in demand new responses."

Mr. Mandela himself issued a warning over the weekend that his government would not tolerate protests that went too far.

"The setting alight of public property as we witnessed recently is an act which if not ceased forthwith, will prompt the government to consider actions to ensure that this does not happen again," he told a rally in the northern Cape Town of Springbok.

"We have to stop looking at ourselves as the opposition. Our militancy must be reeducated to improving production and the creation of more job opportunities," he said.

The ANC, which won South Africa's first all-race elections in April with 62 per cent of the vote, called frequent general strikes and mass marches in the run-up to the poll.

Last week ANC officials

condemned the same tactics when used by disgruntled coloureds, saying enemies of the government were trying to undermine post-apartheid reconstruction.

The Johannesburg-based financial daily business day said recent protests were symptoms of a deeper malaise.

"President Mandela's government has so far done a reasonable job of managing the expectations aroused by its election but the belief of people in many sectors that they are due a liberation dividend is far from over," an editorial said.

"The miracle election which filled parliament and provincial legislatures with new faces, new policies and

new hopes has to some extent failed ordinary people because democracy must mean more than a vote every five years."

Mr. Booysse described the protests as the growing pains of democracy.

"We need to create middle ground between people's expectations and the ability of the government to meet those expectations," he said.

Mr. Booysse said the perceptions of investors about South Africa's stability had improved dramatically since the elections.

"In terms of investment risks, South Africa has dropped from near the danger zone to somewhere close to the ideal zone," he said.

Berbers stage strike

(Continued from page 1)

No progress was reported from a fourth round of talks Tuesday between the government of President Liamine Zouarou and five opposition parties backing eventual fundamentalist participation.

Both the Islamic Salvation Front, whose top leaders were released last week, and many pro-democracy groups including the Berbers have refused to take part in negotiations with a government reluctant to relinquish control.

The Muslim insurgency has taken an estimated 10,000 lives since the government cancelled legislative elections the Islamic Salvation Front was expected to win, propelled by voter discontent with corruption and high unemployment.

Meanwhile, Muslim extremists near Algiers stepped up their threat against schools by ordering a halt to the teaching of French, the language of the country's former colonial ruler, in an area south of the capital.

Several teachers at schools around Blida, south of the capital, reported receiving handbills with the warning by the Armed Islamic Group.

By Dorothy Munyakho

NAIROBI — The global movement for women's reproductive rights is struggling to maintain its momentum on the African continent, partly because the long arm of the law is often still too short to reach African women.

Modern marriage laws, for example, appear to have great scope to protect African women's reproductive rights and to enhance their social status. But study after study reveals wide discrepancies between the written word and actual practice.

Take Kenya's African Christian Marriage and Divorce Act. It rules out polygamy and makes adultery a ground for divorce. It is illegal for both men and women marrying under the act to contract another marriage under any other law or custom. The penalty for breaking the law is a jail term of up to five years.

The legislation is clear and strong. And it doesn't work.

The reason for its ineffectiveness is that men can ignore it and women are afraid to rock the boat by trying to use it.

Divorce is a risky option for a woman who is economically dependent on her husband. In the words of a Swahili saying: "Mnyonge bana haki" — "A poor person has no rights." Even worse, she could lose custody of her children. In addition, she would be jeopardising her very status, which traditionally derives from her male relatives — her father and brothers while she is single and her husband and male in-laws after marriage.

Ironically, other well-intentioned modern laws have added to the precariousness of women's position and thus jeopardised women's access to reproductive rights.

Much post-independence legislation on property in Britain's former African colonies, for example, has undermined women's economic and social status by failing to replace the rights and protection conferred by traditional laws and customs.

In Kenya, lawyer Shadrack Gutto points out that although women previously lacked titular land rights, they virtually controlled foodcrop production; this gave them effective rights to land which they used for the maintenance of their households.

New post-colonial laws, however, while theoretically allowing men and women equal access to land, have in practice squeezed out women, who hold barely five per cent of land titles in Kenya.

In a study of land tenure reform in Machakos district, Kenyan researcher Elizabeth Akinyi Nzioki notes that adjudication and registration of land titles was carried out by men and land was transferred almost exclusively to men.

Women managing the land of husbands who have left the village cannot raise credit or loans, and have no security; when men sell family land for cash — as increasingly happens — the people most threatened are the women and children with little or no off-farm income.

Nzioki reports that women have become "subordinate and marginalised" and that "the income-maximising position granted by land title deeds and cash production has resulted in improving only two things: Cash crop fields and men."

"From women's perspectives, this is not only discriminatory but exploitative as well."

She also points out that

"in the absence of personal rights to land, divorced, separated and widowed women face gross injustice."

In many countries, the situation is complicated and exacerbated by the operation of both customary and modern law systems. A comparison of the position in Ghana and Kenya, undertaken by Anastasia Gage-Brandon and Wamucii Njogu found that the legal duality permitted ambiguities which were exploited to limit women's rights.

Other limiting factors, she found, included women's lack of legal awareness, mainly as a result of inadequate education, and the absence of women in policy-making bodies.

If modern laws have been applied to the detriment of women, or not applied at all, customary laws contain their own problems — including double standards.

Ghanaian men can divorce on grounds of infidelity, childlessness, repeated adultery, sorcery, refusal to perform household chores "and other traditionally viewed forms of insubordination," says Gage-Brandon and Njogu. These

grounds are not available to women.

Childlessness as grounds for divorce highlights the discrimination faced by women, because the cause may be the husband's infertility rather than the wife's.

In any case, women have no control over barrenness. Australian population specialist Jack Caldwell says a large belt of infertility spans parts of Zaire, Sudan, Central African Republic, Gabon and Equatorial Guinea, for which there is no accepted explanation.

Lack of legal protection heightens women's vulnerability to STDs brought to the marriage by their husbands. Inadequate marital rights make it dangerous to opt out of a potentially hazardous relationship. It is "almost inconceivable," says Gage-Brandon and Njogu, for a wife to refuse sex with her husband, except during menstruation and post-delivery abstinence, since payment of bride-price "confers rights on the husband to women's sexual and procreative abilities."

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U.S. says it has 'turned corner' in competitiveness

WASHINGTON (R) — The United States is outbacking its rivals in the race for economic supremacy but it cannot afford to gloat since severe problems persist, the Clinton administration said in a study released Wednesday.

The report to Congress — "competing to win in a global economy" — included a laundry list of statistics to back up the administration claim that it is winning the cut-throat battle for world economic leadership.

And the reason behind the apparent pickup in the nation's competitiveness? The "new kind of Democrat" now in power, according to Commerce Secretary Ron Brown.

"The fact that key indicators of our competitiveness and economic health are extremely positive... demonstrates that this good news is no accident but the result of Clinton administration policies," Mr. Brown said in prepared testimony to the Senate Banking Committee.

Mr. Brown highlighted the administration's success in cutting the budget deficit and in pushing new trade and technology initiatives as key to the enhanced U.S. competitiveness.

"The bottom line of this report is that the economy is back on track and that prospects in the global marketplace are very bright," Mr. Brown said. "America has been very much on the move

in the world economy in the first eighteen months of the Clinton administration."

Economists have been embroiled for years in debate about national competitiveness and what governments can — and should — do to help their firms prosper overseas.

A senior commerce official said the White House firmly believed government makes a difference, despite criticism that such strategies can amount to protectionist industrial policy.

"The central message of this report is that competition is still a very critical concept and that it should be, and is, a national priority," said the official.

"We are in good shape vis-a-vis our competitors," he added.

Mr. Brown said the U.S. standard of living was the highest among the seven richest nations. Gross domestic product per capita in the United States totals \$23,200, against Germany's \$20,400 and Japan's \$19,700, according to the report.

Indeed, most of the statistics that should be up, are up, said Mr. Brown, and those that must come down, are down.

Economic growth, employment, productivity and plant and equipment spending are all on the rise, he said, while the deficit, inflation and the unemployment rate are headed lower.

But problems persist.

"We are, I think, brutally frank in the challenges that we face," said the senior official. "We're not saying we're in great shape and everyone ought to cheer. What we are saying is that we're a lot better off than we were two years ago."

Chief among the challenges: Boosting the nation's pitiful savings and investment rate, cutting health care costs, reining in the trade deficit and improving the nation's spotty education performance.

America must also start competing in brand new fields.

It must keep an eye on new export rivals — such as Mexico, Brazil and China — instead of focusing solely on traditional sparring partners such as Germany and Japan.

The United States must also encourage flexibility in its workers so they adapt to the new world order and ensure it retains its lead in the vital information-technology sector.

Mr. Brown said continued gains in competitiveness depend on six factors: New deficit cuts, passage of the landmark GATT trade treaty, improved education and training, expanded export promotion, continued shifting of research money into civilian technology, and improved productivity through health care reform, welfare reform and crime reduction.

IMF will not expel Sudan

KHARTOUM (AFP) — Sudanese Finance Minister Abdalla Hassan Ahmad Wednesday announced that the International Monetary Fund (IMF) has unanimously voted that Sudan should not be expelled from it as was recently proposed.

Mr. Ahmad said that the IMF board of directors had decided not to recommend the compulsory withdrawal of Sudan from a meeting of the governors due to be held next month, the official SUNA news agency reported.

Sudan was threatened with expulsion from the IMF for failing to pay more than \$1.2 billion in arrears and for what the organisation considered as a failure to adopt economic reforms to meet its terms.

The Islamic-backed government responded that the IMF moves were politically motivated, since it had taken measures going even beyond those demanded by the fund.

In the past month, an IMF delegation came to Sudan for several meetings with senior economic officials.

Reporting the IMF decision Wednesday, the daily Al Sudan Al Hadeeth said it was based on a report submitted by the delegation, which had found that Sudan had carried out all commitments regarding the payment of its installments to the fund.

Moroccan growth seen falling sharply in '95

CASABLANCA (R) — The Moroccan economy, forecast to grow at an average 11 per cent in 1994, is likely to shrink to only two per cent growth in 1995, a Moroccan think-tank said Tuesday.

"Based on 1994's indicators, we forecast an average growth of two per cent in Morocco's gross domestic product (GDP) next year," Nabil Berrada, a spokesman for the authoritative Centre Marocain de Conjoncture (CMC), said.

"We have to be realistic because we cannot predict whether the next cereal harvest will be good or not," he added.

Morocco had a good harvest this year with plentiful rains yielding 9.4 million tonnes of cereals. The agricultural sector helped to boost the economy and was expected to have a positive impact on 1995 figures, CMC said.

Droughts were responsible for negative growth in 1992 and 1993, when Morocco had to import nearly three million tonnes of cereals at a cost of \$2.0 billion.

"The country is returning to normal growth and two per cent growth is realistic... compared with negative growth of the previous years (1992, 1993)," Mr. Berrada said.

Local newspapers have quoted Moroccan officials as projecting growth of six to seven per cent in 1995.

The finance ministry's objectives for 1994 were to keep the budget deficit to 1.4

per cent, the current account deficit to 2.1 per cent and hold inflation at four per cent.

The CMC report shows inflation reached 5.6 per cent in the first semester of 1994. It predicts a budget deficit of seven billion dirhams (\$800 million) by the end of the year which represents more than three per cent of GDP.

The centre said earnings from the current privatisation programme would rise by 10 per cent in 1995. Officials say the selling off of state enterprises will raise 3.5 billion dirhams (\$400 million) by the end of 1994.

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 22, 1994
By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Avoid going off on any tangents as the Sun moves into Libra this evening and don't make any unnecessary changes that could lead to more restrictions. Don't confide in a stranger but be charming.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) Steer clear of that money problem with another and you can then carry through with activities of which you have in mind.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) Avoid one who is inimical to your best interests and look to family for the support you may need within time for you to be successful.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) Regular tasks can be annoying to you today, so dash out and do those profitable and interesting things at hand which you desire.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) Finances should be uppermost on your mind. You can handle them well, provided you forget a jealous romance.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Rely on yourself and charm others into doing what you want with you is a constructive nature. Avoid opposition from your loved ones.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) Walk and drive with greater care than usual. Don't change those particular plans you want to put into operation shortly.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) Forget the financial side of life and concentrate on more private, personal affairs and improve them. Spend time with friends and loved ones.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) Get into some kind of civic tasks which will give you added prestige and stop being demanding with friends and others close to you.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) Stop worrying about something you can do little about and take on new interests which can be more profitable for you today and in the future.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) Get busy on practical affairs and avoid friends who expect too much of you. Devote your spare time to your mate and those around you.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) Be with persons who have your interests at heart and have good ideas. Steer clear of late higher-ups who impede your progress.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) Get into money matters which are worthwhile and of real scope and be ready to do the tasks which can bring big success to you at this time.

Birthstone of September: Sapphire — Lapis Lazuli
FORECAST FOR FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 23, 1994
By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: The Moon in Taurus opposes both Venus and Jupiter making it difficult to express emotions and affections. Material and domestic difficulties surface and it isn't a good time for organising social events.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) If you adopt a new attitude, you can be more successful with your capabilities. A more charming manner and courtesy is required.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) If you confide your plans for the future with your family, you can get fine results with them. Apply your best efforts on a new project.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) Plan how to become more successful in the future and get busy at novel activities. Use much care in motion of all kind.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) Any monetary ideas you have should not be limited for lack of vision by others. You are capable of more than you think.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Devise a plan by which you can make your fondest dreams come true and then start the wheels rolling in the right direction to get your desires.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) If you get in touch with a very successful person you know, you can be informed how best to increase your own success and be noticed by higher-ups.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) If you bring a group of friends together who are successful, you can have a happy time, as well as gain valuable data which you are in need of.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) Get your talents to the attention of some influential person tactfully and you can gain fine benefits you are anxious to obtain.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) Adding to present interests is wise today since there is every opportunity to do so. Your intuition is on target today for your success.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) Study into new systems for handling your affairs and you can make greater progress in business in the days ahead.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) You are gregarious and this is a good day to see as many persons as you can who can be very helpful to you in your daily activities.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) Get busy early at improving your surroundings so that you can be more comfortable in them. You can now discover new ways to be more productive.

S. Africa unwraps blueprint for reconstruction

CAPE TOWN (R) — South Africa Wednesday unveiled a \$7.5 billion rand (\$10.3 billion) blueprint for development fuelled by government savings, economic growth and a state lottery.

"This white paper is a first step in what will be a major programme of transformation involving government and society," Jay Naidoo, manager of South Africa's post-apartheid recovery, told reporters at a pre-release news briefing.

President Nelson Mandela said in a preamble to the 60-page reconstruction and development programme (RDP) that it would eliminate the backlogs created by the racial policies of apartheid and address inequalities.

"Our people elected us because they want change. Change is what they will get. While the government cannot meet all these needs overnight, we must put firmly into place the concrete goals, timeframe and strategies in Mr. Mandela's coalition government of national unity, presented the RDP to a parliamentary select committee on post-apartheid redevelopment.

He said parliament would hold public hearings and

accept submissions on the proposals before putting the plan to debate in the national assembly in November.

"The detailed policy programme cannot be put on the table now. The government has certain ideas, but the success of the RDP depends on a broad range of ideas from throughout society," he said.

Mr. Naidoo said a wide range of committees and task teams at national, provincial and local levels, including community forums, would manage the programme.

"It's going to be difficult. The most important challenge is going to be to get the local governments moving. That's where the RDP is going to be implemented," he said.

"It will take place within every department and every tier of government," he said. "The issue is about transferring resources from where they are now to where they are needed."

South Africa last year emerged from a four-year recession — the worst on record — that left a legacy of unemployment estimated at up to 50 per cent amongst blacks and a deficit of 6.6 per cent of gross domestic product.

Schools in mainly black areas receive a third of the funding per pupil given to schools in mainly white areas, mainly black rural areas have few hospitals and roads in predominantly black areas are virtually non-existent.

Mr. Naidoo said the RDP would be financed mainly by savings in government departments of 2.5 billion rand (\$685 million) this year, rising by 2.5 billion rand a year to 10 billion rand (\$2.7 billion in fiscal 1997/98).

He said the public service, which accounts for more than half of government spending, would be reduced by three per cent a year through a policy natural attrition.

Plans for RDP funding through a state lottery, forbidden under four decades of Calvinist white Afrikaner

rule, were also close to completion, he said.

Bernie Fanaroff, Mr. Naidoo's chief adviser, said he believed the major obstacle would be the lack of infrastructure in South Africa's impoverished rural areas to implement the recovery.

Mr. Naidoo, a former leader of the powerful Congress of South African Trade Unions, said the promotion of employment through small business development would be central to the recovery.

"The focus of growth for us in government will be the small and medium enterprise sector," he said, adding that blacks excluded from the production side of the economy under apartheid would have to be encouraged to move from retail into small-scale manufacturing.

The new decree, which replaced a 20-year-old law, gives authority to the management of state-run companies and scraps old procedures under which they needed approval from higher government bodies for any business venture.

Syria moves to boost the government sector

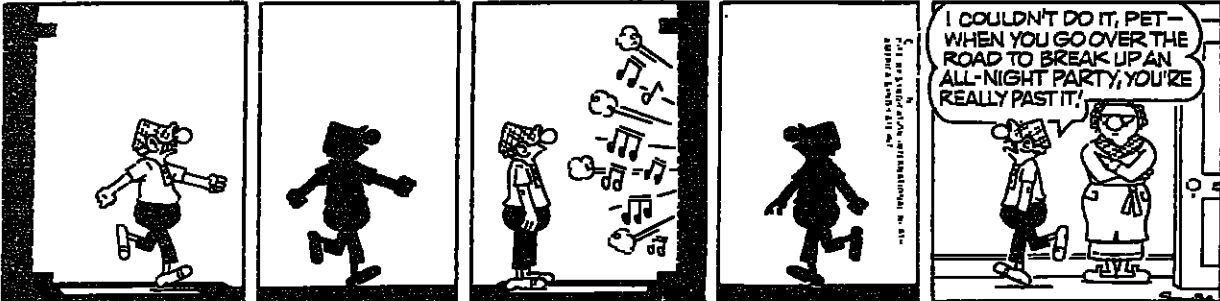
DAMASCUS (R) — Syrian President Hafez Al Assad has issued a decree freeing the public sector from bureaucratic red tape which hampered productivity, officials and economic sources said on Wednesday.

The new decree, which replaced a 20-year-old law, gives authority to the management of state-run companies and scraps old procedures under which they needed approval from higher government bodies for any business venture.

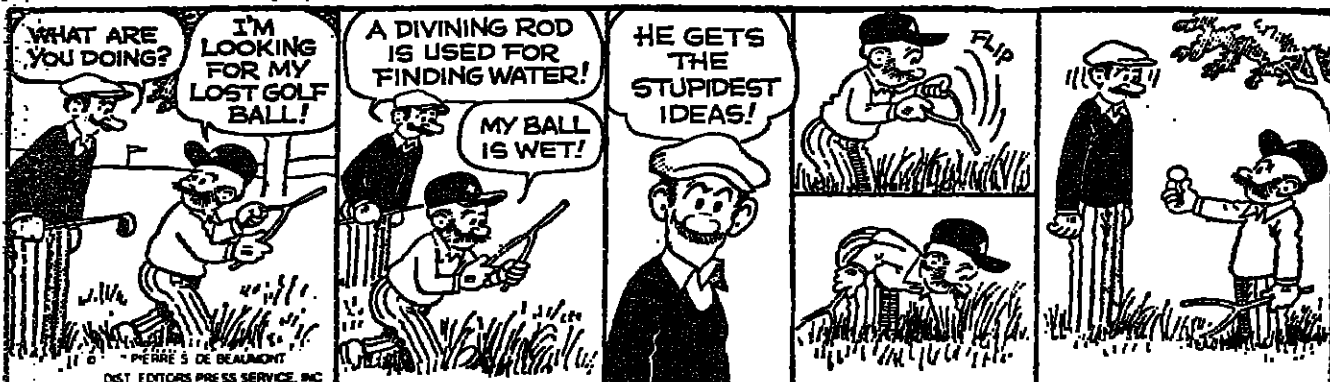
Peanuts



Andy Capp



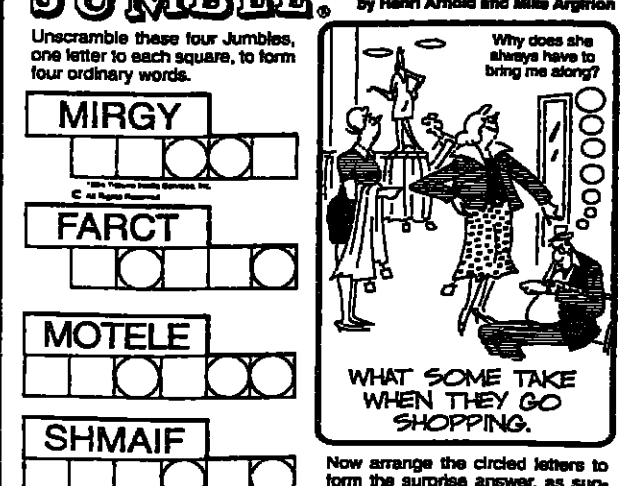
Mutt'n'Jeff



THE BETTER HALF

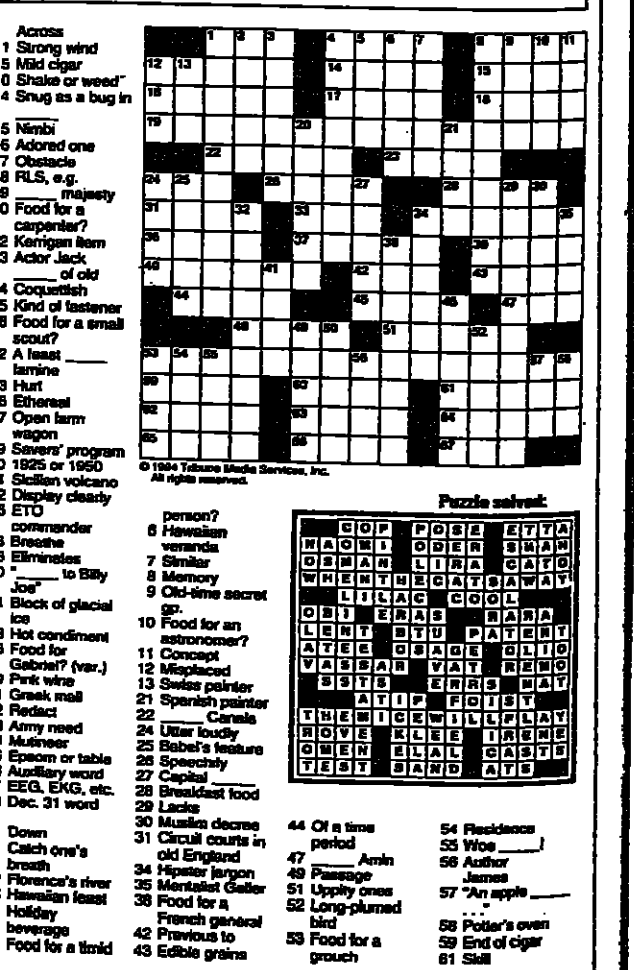


JUMBLE



Print answer here: _____ (Answers tomorrow)
Saturday's Jumble: ANKLE CARGO PEWTER ANGINA
Answer: How the fishing fleet caught its daily limit — BY "NET"-WORKING

THE Daily Crossword



Financial Markets

U.S. Dollar in International Markets

Currency	New York 20/9/94	Tokyo 21/9/94
Sterling Pound	1.5749	1.5770
Deutsche Mark	1.5509	1.5485
Swiss Franc	1.2860	1.2845
French Franc	5.3025	5.2982**
Japanese Yen	97.75	97.66
European Currency Unit	1.2310	1.2322**

* USD Per YTD
** European Opening at 8:00 a.m. GMT

Interbank Interest Rates

Currency	1 MTH	3 MTHS	6 MTHS	12 MTHS
U.S. Dollar	4.62	4.67	5.25	5.75
Sterling Pound	5.25	5.75	6.37	7.25
Deutsche Mark	4.81	4.87	5.00	5.37
Swiss Franc	3.75	3.93	4.12	4.43
French Franc	5.25	5.37	5.68	6.78
Japanese Yen	2.18	2.18	2.25	2.50
European Currency Unit	5.68	5.68	6.25	6.90

Interbank bid rates for amounts exceeding 1 N. Dollar 1,000,000 or equivalent.

Central Bank of Jordan Exchange Rate Bulletin

Currency	Bid	Offer
U.S. Dollar	0.6960	0.6980
Sterling Pound	1.0969	1.1024
Deutsche Mark	0.4492	0.4514
Swiss Franc	0.5413	0.5440
French Franc	0.1314	0.1321
Japanese Yen	0.7100	0.7136
Dutch/Guilder	0.4006	0.4026
Swedish Krona	0.0447	0.0449
Italian Lira	0.0447	0.0449
Belgian Franc	0.0447	0.0449

Other Currencies

Currency	Bid	Offer
Bahraini Dinar	1.5300	1.5490
Lebanese Lira	0.040845	0.042025
Saudi Riyal	0.1853	0.1871
Kuwaiti Dinar	0.3150	0.3490
Qatari Riyal	0.1900	0.1920
Egyptian Pound	0.2000	0.2150
Omani Riyal	1.7870	1.8150
UAE Dirham	0.1858	0.1896
Greek Drachma	0.2765	0.3150
Cypriot Pound	1.3875	1.4965

Oman plans long-term industrial drive with Japanese help

ABU DHABI (AFP) — The Gulf state of Oman intends to set up large projects as part of a long-term industrial drive with Japanese help to diversify its oil-reliant economy, its trade and industry minister said.

Makbul bin Ali Sultan said the projects, involving petrochemicals and other industries, would be based on intensive capital and technology as Oman presses ahead with plans to reduce dependence on foreign labour.

The ministry is planning

to step up support and incentives for existing industries and new export-oriented projects. Mr. Makbul said in an introduction to a new book on Oman's economy, extracts of which were obtained by AFP here Wednesday.

"We are also conducting studies on an industrial development strategy that will stretch until the year 2005 and involve giant ventures in order to boost the industrial sector's share in the economy. It will be implemented in cooperation with the

Japanese Agency for International Cooperation," he wrote.

Oman, which is not an OPEC member, has launched sweeping economic reforms to offset weak oil prices that have created a persistent deficit in its budget and forced it to revise the current five-year development plan.

The reforms focus on privatisation, attracting investment and providing incentives to industrial ventures.

The government has

approved a giant petrochemical project at a cost of \$700-\$800 million, to be financed mainly by the private sector. Oman is the first Gulf state to admit private funds into petrochemicals.

Another giant project on the cards is a six-billion-dollar gas liquefaction plant, which will produce nearly six million tonnes per year when it is completed in 2000.

Other ventures include a \$200 million power plant and two sewage treatment pro-

jects which will all be managed by the private sector.

Mr. Makbul said the long-term plan also included setting up more industrial zones similar to those in Rasail, Risot and Sahar. He said the new zones would be based in Nizwa, Sur, Buraimi and Masandam, which controls the vital Hormuz Strait, a passageway for nearly one fifth of the world's oil exports.

Oman produces around 800,000 barrels per day of oil, of which nearly 35 per cent is

supplied in Japan, also a key exporter to the sultanate.

The reforms, which gained momentum after the Gulf war, have started to produce results, with officials reporting a rapid growth in the non-oil economy. From 7.6 per cent in 1991, the non-oil Gross Domestic Product surged by 12 per cent in 1992 and nine per cent in 1993.

Officials said they expected high growth rates in 1994 due to sharp increase in local and foreign investment and establishment of new ventures.

Asia may spend \$140 billion to keep oil flowing — expert

SINGAPORE (AFP) — Asian economies may have to spend up to \$140 billion on extra refining capacity over the next 15 years to keep pace with rapid growth in oil consumption, an international petroleum conference

heard Wednesday.

"Securing this level of capital investment along with the required technical capabilities will be a challenge to the government of many developing Asian countries," said Joseph Stanislaw of

U.S.-based Cambridge Energy Research Associates (CERA).

He told the 10th Asia Pacific Petroleum Conference (APPEC) here that more state-owned refining companies would be commercialised or privatised and former state monopolies would be opened to private investment to meet higher refining capacity.

Asia could witness a refining capacity shortfall of at least 700,000 barrels per day by the year 2000, officials said.

Mr. Stanislaw said that Asia's developing economies would also have to invest heavily to equip new refineries with sophisticated tech-

nology in line with more stringent environmental standards and to increase the yield in transportation fuels.

Mr. Stanislaw, head of CERA's global research team, said that in three years, oil consumption in Asia, including Japan, would exceed that of North America.

CERA estimates that by 2005, total Asian oil consumption would have grown by nine to 10 million barrels per day (MBD) from current production of Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates.

Current production in Asia — where reserves and prospects for significant future growth in regional production are limited — was just under seven MBD, officials said. The region imports an additional nine million MBD.

"The shift in oil's demand epicenter from North America to Asia and Asia's growing reliance on Middle East oil will have a profound impact on trading and commercial relationships," Mr. Stanislaw said.

Middle East oil producing countries, he said, would further develop their downstream interests in Asia, while Asia countries would become increasingly involved in the financial and technical requirements of developing Middle East oil and gas production capacity.

Some 300 oil experts attended the three-day conference which ended Wednesday.

ASIAN FINANCIAL MARKET					COUNTRY INDEX	
HONGKONG SHARE INDEX					THAI SET INDEX	
TELEPHONE: (0617) 661170					TELEPHONE: (0617) 661170	
ORGANIZED MARKET SHARE PRICE LIST					FOR WEEK END 21/07/1994	
COMPANY'S NAME					TRADED VOLUME	OPENING PRICE
					NO	PRICE
AARAS BAKRE					85,280	180.00
AARAS INTERNATIONAL BANK					1,656	3.973
AARAS OF JORDAN					2,406	3.807
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Big names left red-faced in the English League Cup

LONDON (AFP) — Four premiership sides were left red-faced after defeats by lower division opposition in the English League Cup second round late Tuesday.

Manchester City, West Ham and Crystal Palace went down to Third Division Barnet, Lincoln City and Walsall respectively, while Everton face a tough second-leg re-match at Goodison Park.

The Merseysiders, without a victory this season, could have been dead and buried after two goals from Gerry Creaney and one from the Dane, Bjorn Kristiansen, had sent the First Division visitors racing into a three goal lead.

However, a Vinny Samways long-range effort and a Graham Stuart penalty — following a foul on Nigerian international, Daniel Amokachi — restored some pride and gave the Toffees a glimmer of hope.

A second-minute goal by Barnet's Dougie Freedman — handed a free-transfer by Queen's Park Rangers during the summer — was enough to

sink Manchester City at Underhill.

City battled back desperately, but found the Londoners' goalkeeper, Gary Phillips, in magnificent form.

Lincoln winger, Dave Putnam, scored the only goal of the game against Crystal Palace in the 61st minute at Sincil Bank. The visitors had missed a string of chances in the opening stages.

The most embarrassed man of the night was West Ham skipper, Steve Potts, who put through his own goal to give Walsall a 2-1 first-leg victory at the Bescot Stadium.

The hosts' Cameroonian international, Charlie Ntarmark, had earlier also scored an own goal, cancelling out Stuart Watkiss' 25th minute strike.

Blackburn Rovers, embarrassed in a 1-0 UEFA Cup defeat by Swedish part-timers, Trelleborgs a week ago, made sure there was no repeat as goals by Jason Wilcox and five-million-pound man, Chris Sutton, gave them a 2-0 victory over

Second Division Birmingham at Ewood Park.

An injury-time goal by Matthew le Tissier gave Southampton a 1-0 win against another Second Division outfit, Huddersfield, while England striker, Les Ferdinand ensured victory by the same margin for Queen's Park Rangers at Third Division Carlisle.

Conventry City gave themselves a one-goal cushion for the home second leg against Wrexham, thanks to a headed Sean Flynn goal 12 minutes from time at the Racecourse Ground.

The Sky Blues scored first in their 2-1 win through Julian Darby in the 37th minute, with Barry Jones equalising five-minutes later for the Second Division hosts.

Top scorers of the night were First Division Sheffield United, victors by 5-1 at Stockport. Dane Whitehouse bagged a hat-trick — including two goals in the last two minutes — to add to a brace from Norwegian international, Jostein Flo.



Gary Lineker

Lineker announces retirement

LONDON (AFP) — Former England captain Gary Lineker announced his retirement Wednesday.

Lineker has been beset by injury problems since he joined Japanese side Nagoya Grampus Eight from Tottenham Hotspur in 1992.

The announcement brings down the curtain on a spectacular goalscoring career that started at Leicester City and also took in spells at Everton and Barcelona.

The news will disappoint a number of English clubs who had been hoping to strike — whose clean-cut image has made him something of an ambassador for the game — would finish his career back home.

Lineker, who will be 34 in November, told BBC Radio: "I am certainly not what I was, and it has been frustrating not being able to perform like I used to."

"I suppose the decision was made for me because I didn't want to carry on not playing, and not moving the way I used to."

Lineker was top scorer with six goals in the 1986 World Cup in Mexico and also netted England's equaliser in the 1990 World Cup semifinal in Turin, before they were beaten on penalties by the eventual champions, West Germany.

His glittering international career included a total of 48 goals — one short of Sir Bobby Charlton's record — but it came to a depressing close when he was substituted in his final game for his country, a European Championship final defeat against host country Sweden, in 1992.

Lineker said: "I certainly want to stay involved in the game in some way, but being a coach or manager doesn't appeal. My ambitions are towards the media side of the game."

Dallas wants more souvenir money

NEW YORK (AFP) — Dallas Cowboys' owner Jerry Jones wants a larger share of the \$250 million in merchandising money the National Football League (NFL) receives from souvenir sales.

Global retail sales of clothing and other items with NFL team emblems totals \$3 billion, with one-twelfth of that divided evenly among the league's 28 clubs under royalty licensing fees.

Products with the Dallas logo and colours account for almost 30 per cent of total sales, nearly \$1 billion at the customer level.

Without the NFL's current arrangement of dividing all such income evenly, the Cowboys would take away about \$80 million in royalty fees. The next-closest club, the Los Angeles Raiders, would receive \$20 million.

"I believe very strongly our individual teams can do a much better job than we can nationally as a group," Jones said. "It would be positive for everyone."

Everyone, that is, except those whose marketing shares are very low. Among those clubs is the Cleveland Browns, whose helmets are the only ones in the league that are blank.

"It doesn't have a chance," Cleveland owner Art Modell said. "It's nonsense. You can't have 28 teams making deals with different T-shirt makers in competition with one another."

A similar attempt to balance incomes in Major League Baseball contributed to the players' strike.

Europe's finest coaches plan for future dominance

STOCKHOLM (R) — Europe's international soccer coaches gathered in force in Sweden Tuesday to lay down the strategies they and UEFA hope will keep the continent's teams on top of the world for the rest of the decade.

The European Football Union, wary of the speed with which African and Asian countries are closing in, have taken the unprecedented step of coaching the coaches in a bid to maintain Europe's superiority on the soccer pitch.

After filling seven of the eight quarterfinal spots at this year's World Cup, UEFA are determined to ensure European teams dominate again at the 1998 finals in France.

Former Scotland coach Andy Roxburgh, who organised the first ever coaches' convention for UEFA, said: "Europe cannot afford to be complacent. We had a successful World Cup in America, but Africa and Asia are catching up, and FIFA are doing a lot of work with them."

"If Europe is complacent we could find ourselves in big trouble. The moment we think we have got it made, we are lost."

Roxburgh, who studied the World Cup in great detail, said: "The flaw with the European game is that while our players are quick, powerful and well organised, they are not as mobile as the African players, and they don't have the variety of skills."

"Most of the time they are solid, don't have mobility and are technically limited missing elements which we should be encouraging. We have to go back to basics to maintain our place in the world order."

Some of the biggest names in soccer were in Stockholm to listen, learn and swap ideas and experiences in a two-day coaches' convention — including the men who led three European sides into the semifinals at the World Cup. Italy's Arrigo Sacchi, whose team went so close to winning the World Cup final against Brazil, Tommy Svensson, who took Sweden to the semifinals for only the second time, and Bulgaria's Dimitar Penev, who led a country that had never won a match at a World Cup final to the last four.

Terry Venables, appointed England coach after they failed to reach the World Cup finals and charged with winning the European Championship in England in 1996, said Europe's top teams must continue to adapt and improve their game or face possibly having to sit in the back seat of soccer.

"Other countries are catching up very quickly and if you don't go forward in this game you go backwards," he said. "European countries did themselves proud at the World Cup in America, but we're being told it's not a time to rest on our laurels and say now we've achieved everything."

"Everybody here's in the same boat, we all have similar problems and we can discuss them and if we can learn anything at all from that it's got to be worthwhile."

Roxburgh, UEFA's full-time technical director, has designed a series of seminars based on World Cup tactics aimed at sparking new ideas among the coaches.

"This is basically an educational exercise and we have brought them together to collectively examine the World Cup and what happened. We must keep ahead of the trends and what is happening."

"The game is changing all the time, constantly moving ahead with many subtleties."

Real Madrid in dock

STOCKHOLM (R) — Real Madrid could face heavy punishment from FIFA for failing to release a Slovakian player for international duty in a case viewed by world soccer's governing body as deliberate cheating.

The International Football Federation is likely to make an example out of the Spanish Giants in an attempt to curb the growing trend of wealthy clubs refusing to let players go on international duty.

FIFA are angry that Real Madrid blocked clearance for their young Slovakian striker Peter Dubovsky to play for his country in a European Championship qualifier against France earlier this month on their debut in a major championship.

Real, determined to win the Spanish title this season after watching Barcelona crowned champions for a third successive year, held

Dubovsky back, claiming he was injured.

But FIFA technical director Walter Gagg, in Sweden for a UEFA coaches' convention, said Dubovsky played the weekend before the international and three days after, and had told his international coach, Jozef Venglos, he wanted to play.

"We feel we must set an example against such kind of obvious cheating," said Gagg.

Unity Trading Establishment Introduces Hyundai 'Accent'

The Unity Trading Establishment Hyundai organised a press conference to announce the introduction of the new "Accent" 1995 from Hyundai to the Jordanian markets.

The establishment Director General Hassan Olayan addressed the audience, outlining the history of the Korean Hyundai group and the volume of production and invested capital.

He said the group undertakes a huge electronic contracting business and also deals in ship building, banking, insurance and other businesses.

Commencing operations in 1940, Hyundai now employs 95,000 workers and engineers who have helped to win their firm worldwide acclaim and fame.

Referring to car manufacturing, he said that the group started producing cars in 1968 in cooperation with a number of major foreign companies from Japan and Europe. These, he said, provided Hyundai with expertise and helped pave the way for Hyundai to become one of the largest car manufacturers in the world.

Mr. Olayan said that the Hyundai group began by exporting 3,000 cars annually in 1968, raising the figure to one million annually at the present, acquiring more than 47 per cent of the Korean car market.

Mr. Olayan said that the group exports its cars to more than 160 nations and is currently striving to reach the world's fourth place in car production by the year 2000.

This is a great ambition but could be attained through opening more markets in the USA and Europe, he added. Hyundai is currently planning to sell 221,000 cars to the USA alone in the year 2000, according to Mr. Olayan.

Accompanied by Mr. Kim, Hyundai's sales manager in the Middle East, Mr. Olayan spoke in detail about Accent 1995 specifications and qualities. Noting that Hyundai started producing Accent cars five years ago, Mr. Olayan said that the car has undergone

constant development, stressing that thousands of engineers have helped to produce the high-tech car whose sales to date have topped 50 per cent of all Hyundai's sales of various products.

Accent 1995 has been fitted with all safety and security requirements, including a safe steering wheel that provides protection to the driver in case of accidents, steel-reinforced doors and more internal space to ensure comfort.

Mr. Olayan thanked the Jordanian public, expressing confidence in Jordanian citizens' choice of the best car and thanked the Korean group for its cooperation with "Unity Trading Establishment" through supplying constant flow of spare parts and offering customers a two-year guarantee on each car — thus becoming the first car firm to offer this advantage to its customers.

Following the conference Mr. Olayan held a reception at the Marriott Hotel attended by a large group of businessmen.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Taiwan may cut China links

TAIPEI (AFP) — Taiwan may suspend sporting and cultural links with China because of Beijing's hostility to President Lee Teng-hui visiting Japan for next month's Asian Games. Yeh Chin-feng, vice chairman of the cabinet's Mainland Affairs Council (MAC), also said Tang Shubei, a Chinese official who handles relations with Taiwan, may be declared persona non grata. Tang, vice chairman of China's Association for Relations Across the Taiwan Strait (ARATS), accused Taiwan in an interview with a Chinese-language newspaper in San Francisco last week of interfering in sports by organising Lee's visit. He also ridiculed Taipei's efforts to rejoin the United Nations and other international organisations. Lee was invited by the Olympic Council of Asia but after China's protests, the OCA banned "political figures" from the event and Monday Lee scrapped his plan to attend the games opening ceremony. China is still protesting at Taiwan's plans to send Vice Premier Hsu Li-teh, Education Minister Kuo Wei-fan and Taiwan Sports Federation head Kuo Tsung-ching to Hiroshima to lobby for Taipei's bid to host the 2002 Asian Games.

Passarella nose job raises a stink

BUENOS AIRES (AFP) — Argentina's controversial new football coach Daniel Passarella is already getting up his players' noses. The former World Cup hero is insisting that everyone selected for the Argentine squad must have a nasal test to detect cocaine abuse. In recent times, Argentina has been embarrassed by a couple of celebrated snufflers who were caught while playing in Italy. First, Diego Maradona was banned for 15 months in 1992 and last year Claudio Caniggio received a 13-month suspension. Passarella, Argentina's World Cup-winning captain in 1978, is determined that nothing so unsavoury will happen while he's in charge. But although his solution to the problems might put a few noses out of joint, it comes as no surprise to most Argentinians who are familiar with his offbeat edicts in his search of only the sweet smell of success. When Passarella was coach of River Plate, one of Latin America's leading clubs, he ordered everyone to get a short-back-and-sides haircut.

CONGRATULATIONS

The Jordan Times staff extend their congratulations to footballer Yousef Amouri, brother of our colleague Nidal Amouri, on the occasion of his wedding to Razan Friday, Sept. 16.



FOR RENT

FURNISHED NEW APARTMENT
Second floor, furnished new apartment, about 200m², three bedrooms, dining, living and sitting room (L-shaped), large kitchen and 2 bathrooms. The apartment also includes central heating and an intercom. Bayader Wadi Al Seer, near Al Ahli Club. For more information, please call at 811559, between 12:00 noon and 6:00 p.m.

Under The Patronage Of Her Majesty Queen Noor Al Hussein

The National Music Conservatory/ Noor Al Hussein Foundation

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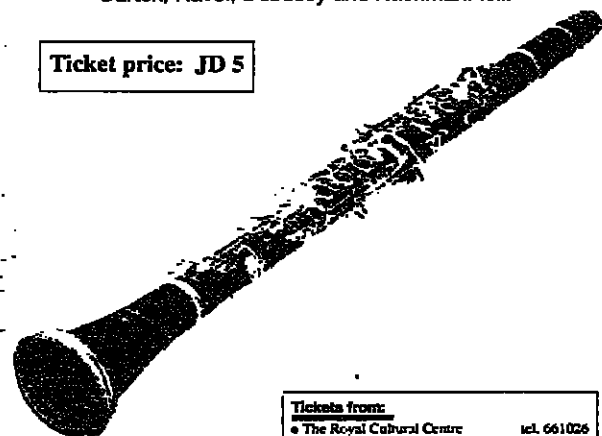
present in concert

Nandor Gotz, clarinet
accompanied by Balazs Szokolay, piano

Thursday, 29 September 1994 - 8:00 p.m.
The Royal Cultural Centre - Main Theatre

In the program pieces by Verdi, Poulenc,
Bartok, Ravel, Debussy and Rachmaninoff.

Ticket price: JD 5



Tickets from:
• The Royal Cultural Centre tel. 661026
• Baitheba tel. 661322
• Rozero tel. 664227
• Philadelphia Hotel tel. 607100
• The National Music Conservatory tel. 687620

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Two German Shepherd dogs
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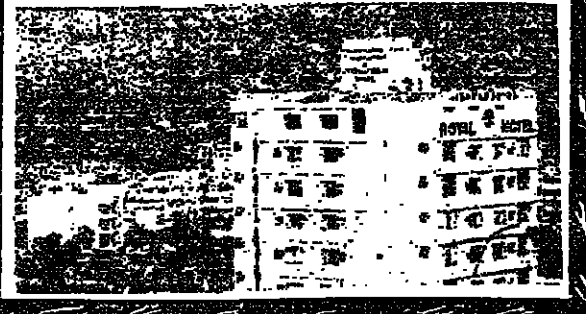
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Russian junior world champ Lysak banned for doping

MONACO (R) — Double world junior champion Yelena Lysak of Russia has been banned from competition pending a hearing after failing a dop test in July. International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) sources said Wednesday.

The sources said the 18-year-old Lysak, who won a unique double in the long jump and triple jump in July at the World Junior Championships in Lisbon, tested positive for the steroid stanozolol at the European Junior Cup in Cologne July 30.

Both samples of Lysak's urine test showed traces of stanozolol, the steroid used by Canadian sprinter Ben Johnson at the 1988 Olympics in Seoul, and she has been suspended until the Russian federation holds a hearing, the sources added.

Lysak is the fourth Russian to be suspended for doping this year and the 30th international athlete to be banned.

Regarded as one of the most promising young athletes of her generation, Lysak beat world junior record holder Ren Ruiping of China in Lisbon in the triple jump with a leap of 14.43 metres.

It was the best mark ever recorded by a junior but will not go down in the

record books as it was wind-assisted.

Last year Lysak won the European junior title with a 13.86 metres jump which was then a world junior record.

The IAAF confirmed that another Russian suspended for doping, former world 100 metres hurdles champion Lyudmila Narozhilenko, was still banned from competition despite a Moscow court ruling overturning her suspension.

Narozhilenko was given a four-year ban last year after testing positive for an anabolic steroid at an indoor meeting in France but she took her case to a Moscow district court which declared the ban unlawful.

Narozhilenko contended the drug had been administered to her by her husband without her knowledge.

The Russian Athletics Federation said it would ignore the court ruling and stick to IAAF regulations.

An IAAF spokesman said the Russian Federation had acted correctly and that Narozhilenko would still be banned from international competition.

But he said the situation could become more complicated if Narozhilenko applied to compete at a meeting in Russia.



Top-seeded Arantxa Sanchez Vicario of Spain returns the ball to Naoko Kijimuta of Japan during their first round match of the Nichirei women's tennis tournament Wednesday. Sanchez defeated Kijimuta 6-0, 6-0 (AFP photo)

Top-seeded Sanchez Vicario scores easy victory in Japan

TOKYO (AP) — Top-seeded Arantxa Sanchez Vicario, keeping her championship form from the U.S. and French Opens, made short work Wednesday of Japanese qualifier Naoko Kijimuta in the first round of the Nichirei International Ladies Tennis Championships.

The Spanish player blanked Kijimuta, ranked 134th in the world, 6-0, 6-0 in 54 minutes on the hard court of Ariake Colosseum.

"It's always important to get accustomed to the court and balls in the first match of a tournament. I am always doing my best and playing 100 per cent in every tournament," said Sanchez

Vicario, the world's No. 2-ranked woman player.

Asked about her two Grand Slam tournament victories, she said, "I think I am now much stronger on fast surfaces after a lot of practice and I am mentally stronger now."

Vicario Sanchez generally kept control with deep shots and high lobs, but had to rally from behind when Kijimuta took a 40-15 lead on the Spanish player's serve in the second set's second game and then again in the fifth game, when Kijimuta led 40-0 on her own serve.

Third-seeded Lindsay Davenport of the United States needed three sets and 2 hours, 25 minutes to beat

Japanese qualifier Kaoru Shibata 6-2, 4-6, 6-0.

The 18-year-old Davenport, ranked eighth in the world, was broken by Shibata, ranked 624th, in the second, fourth, sixth and 10th games of the second set.

"I lost concentration and she played pretty well in the second set," Davenport said.

Eighth-seeded Julie Halard of France beat Argentine Mercedes Paz 6-4, 7-6 (7-2) and Japan's Naoko Sawamatsu, the ninth seed, outlasted hard-hitting Wang Shi-Ting of Taiwan 6-0, 4-6, 6-1 in other first-round matches.

The singles winner receives \$80,000 from a total purse of \$400,000.

Ma to market elixir at Hiroshima

BEIJING (AP) — China's flamboyant track coach Ma Junren, whose long-distance women runners broke a string of world records last year, plans to market his elixir during the Asian Games next month. An official report said Wednesday.

Ma's health drink, a secret mix of Chinese herbs and medicine, is already on sale in China under the name "Ma's Army — No. 1." The report in the Beijing Youth daily said his runners are quaffing the herbal drinks in preparation for the Asian Games opening Oct. 2 in Hiroshima, Japan.

The paper said Ma denied rumours that his runners are

given a stronger version of the drink than what he markets. It added that drug testers invariably will be keeping a close eye on what Ma's runners eat and drink because of allegations that the women were taking illegal performance-enhancing drugs which broke the world records.

But several drug tests have all come back negative, and the paper said MA is confident that his drink does not violate any regulations.

The coach plans to take sales agents with him to the Hiroshima Games, where he hopes to sign contracts with Japanese buyers for his sports drink even as he's clocking his team, the paper said.

His primary objective at the Asian Games is to win gold medals rather than break world records because the gold medals are the best way to promote the elixir, the report said.

Ma started to market his sports drink because of lack of funding to train his runners. They had to run barefoot until their feet were bloodied because they were through their sneakers too quickly and there was no money to buy new ones, they said.

The Asian Games will be the first competition in which MA's runners will participate using products from his sports drink, the paper said.

Union negotiator considers possible baseball strike-breaking attempt

ATLANTA (AP) — Donald Fehr isn't worried about maintaining American baseball player solidarity now. He's thinking about next February, when owners might open training camps in an effort to break the strike.

"It's my job to be concerned if there's still a strike at that point," Fehr said Tuesday after briefing 33 players from 19 teams. "I have not had an occasion to doubt the unity and the resolve of the players since it started, and I don't know."

Fehr met with players Atlanta for 3½ hours at the start of his seven-city tour, and was to brief players Wednesday in Florida.

"What's going to happen, I don't know," Fehr said. "I don't think anyone knows. I think we're in no-man's land. I just hope there is a desire on the other side to try and reach an accommodation before things get a lot worse."

Tom Glavine, player representative of the Atlanta Braves, went into the meeting saying he couldn't speak for other teams.

"I know my guys haven't changed one bit," he said. "I think they fully understand what's going on. They are not about to agree to a salary cap

or anything that looks like a salary cap."

He came out of the meeting talking about the unity of those who attended.

"Everybody is on the same page," he said. "Everybody is behind it the way we've been all along."

Most of the players left the downtown hotel without stopping for interviews.

"I've got a golf game," said Fred McGriff of the Braves, apparently unconcerned that by the time he got through traffic to a course, it likely would be dark.

Fehr said he wished there could be a way to quickly resolve the strike "so that we can reassure the fans we're not going to have this problem next year. That requires them (owners) to want an agreement. So far, that hasn't been their choice. This is not easy stuff. The owners want to play hardball."

Brett Butler, the Los Angeles Dodgers player representative, said the meeting was to clarify the executive board's position for players who were relying on news reports.

"Until they're ready to negotiate, all we can do is inform our players, keep hav-

ing these meetings and keep them up to snuff on what's going on," Butler said.

Glavine said no one came up with any new ideas. "It's up to them to come back and talk to us if they ever want to," he said. "We all love baseball and we all want to play, but we don't want to play under those rules. That's the bottom line. The sooner owners understand that, the sooner we'll get together and get something done."

The sides haven't met since Sept. 9, and Fehr said there are no scheduled talks. The union believes owners will attempt to break the impasse in bargaining the laborally implement the salary cap management they are insisting on.

"This is about breaking the union and getting their power back and ultimately getting a lot of money out of it," Glavine said.

Fehr is to testify Thursday in Washington before a congressional subcommittee investigating whether baseball's antitrust exemption should be removed. Acting commissioner Bud Selig also is to testify.

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TOMMY TAKES THE PRIZE

Both vulnerable. North deals.
NORTH
♠ K Q 4
♥ 7 6
♦ A 10 5
♣ A K J 7

WEST
♠ A 10 8 7
♥ 3 5 4 3
♦ 7 6 4
♣ Q 10 9 5 3

SOUTH
♠ J 9 8 5 3 2
♥ A Q 2
♦ K Q 9
♣ 8

The bidding:
North: 1NT
South: 3NT
West: 4NT
East: 5NT

Opening lead: Jack of ♠

It had been a quiet year for Tommy. Turnout at

the club had limited the amount of bridges he had played and members were beginning to forget how remarkable a player Tommy could be when trumps broke badly, offset by his poor performance on the rest of the hands.

All that changed on Tommy's recent visit to the club. In the very first rubber, holding the South cards, he and partner bid to six spades on the auction shown. Tommy, not one for the niceties of a delicate probing sequence, took the

bull by the horns. Once a spade fit was located, Tommy decided there was enough for a small slam, but not enough for a grand and got there by the most direct route.

West led the jack of hearts and the kibitzers were about to search for a more interesting table when Tommy won the first trick in hand

and led a trump to the queen. East discarded a club.

The adrenalin began to flow in Tommy. If West's pattern were specifically 4-3-3-3, the contract was home with a triple grand coup!

Tommy called the ace of clubs and ruffed a club. The ace and king of hearts followed, then another club ruff. After cashing the king, queen and ace of diamonds, both West and Tommy were down to nothing but three trumps each and the lead was in dummy. Tommy led the last club and ruffed with the jack of trump.

If West underuffed, a trump toward the king would hold the losses to one spade. When West overuffed, the forced trump return was into the combined K-Q tenace and the defenders were again limited to one trump trick. Masterful!

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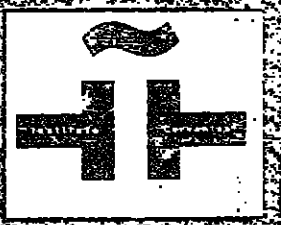
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